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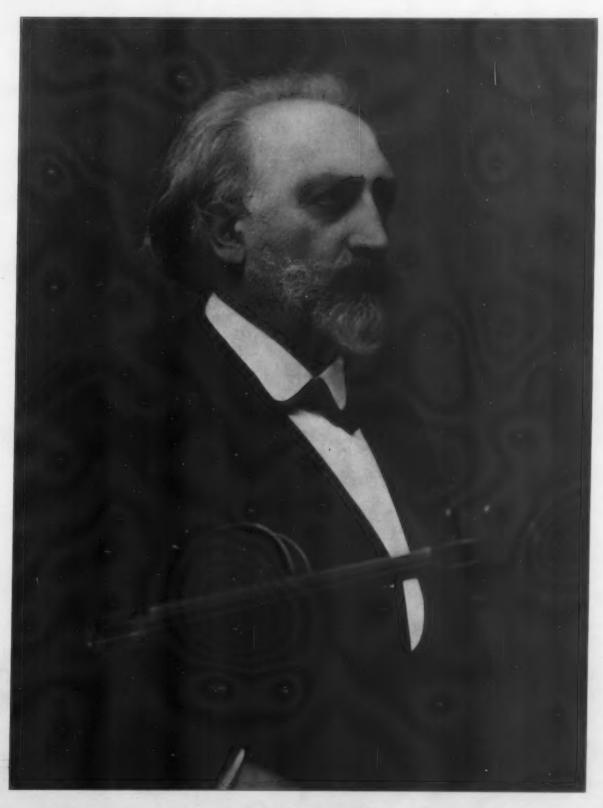
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# BAYREUTH IN 1876 AND 1906.

BY ARTHUR M. ABELL.

II.



Wagner began the poem of his "Ring of the Niebelung" as far back as 1841, and he worked at it, all told, with many interruptions, full three and a half decades. It is the great and crowning work of all his achievements and played very much the same role in his life as "Faust" did in Goethe's. "Rheingold" was completed in 1854, "Die Walküre" in 1856, "Siegfried" in 1869 and "Götterdämmerung" in 1874. before he had finished the gigantic work Wagner realized that he could not hope for an ideal performance of it on the German operatic stage as it then existed, because of the great demands it made on the régie singers and orchestra. So he conceived the plan of building a special theater for its performance. The Bayreuth Theater

was erected especially for the "Ring of the Niebelung," and not for Wagner's works in general. The performance of his other dramas there was an afterthought.

Americans who visit Bayreuth for the first time wonder why Wagner chose this dull, dead, out of the way little provincial town for his undertaking. He had good Consideration his royal Bavarian patron, King Ludwig II., required that he carry out his plan somewhere in Bavaria. Munich at that time did not want Wagner, and indeed, the master himself reasoned that a large city, with its many distractions, would not be the proper place. He looked about a good deal in search of a suitable town, and finally chose Bayreuth, as it seemed to fill the requirements letter than any other small Bavarian city. He also found the Bayreuth authorities very amenable to his wishes. Later. Baden-Baden. Darmstadt and other cities

deavored to get him to come there. He first visited Bayreuth in 1871. In the spring of the following year he took up his permanent residence there, and on April 29 of the same year work was begun on the theater. Wagner himself laid the groundstone with the words: "Sei gesegnet

mein Stein, stehe lang und fest." The building was fin-Wagner ished in August, 1873. had hoped to have the first per-formance of the "Ring" take place the following year, but this impossible, chiefly through lack of The summer of 1875 was devoted to rehearsing with the full orchestra and all of the great artists who sang in the public performance the following year. an impressive when Wagner and Liszt, arm in arm, entered the house for the first full rehearsal. The orchestra greeted them with the Walhall otive and Betz sang the words of Wotan on seeing Walhall:

ollendet das ewige Werk Auf Bergesgipful die Götterburg, Prachtvoll prahlt der prangende

Bau! Wie im Traum ich ihn trug, wie

Wille ihn wies stark und schön steht er zur Schau;

Hehrer, herrlicher Bau! These pretentious words seem plicity of the building, but thirty

years ago ideas of architecture were different, and then illustrated in the Vorspiel. The fifth produced by the low him and in reality rob him of power. play. The acoustic properties—the chiefest consideration are magnificent. It seems to me that Wagner overdid his covered orchestra scheme. The tones are too much dampened, especially those of the strings and woodwind.

The festival opened this year with "Tristan and Isolde" and see the three Rhine daughters, Woglinde, Wellgunde on July 22. The following day "Parsifal" was given, and then came the "Ring," July 25 to 28. The "Ring" was much better given than the other two works, so I shall write about it first. The program was as follows:

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"WALKURE" SCENE-SIEGMUND, SIEGLINDE AND HUNDING IN THE HUT.

Fricka																										
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"RHEINGOLD" SCENE-WOTAN, FRICKA AND LOGE ARE IN THE FOREGROUND; FAFNER AND FASOLT WITH FREIA IN THE BACK OF STAGE.

E flat of the double basses and the B nat of the watery immensity of a longs for the end which at first he so dreaded. In this is slowly flowing great stream, and the simple arpeggios that is very human.

The first downward step was taken in contracting for the slow tempo illustrate the motion of the waves.

and Flosshilde, swimming about a cliff in the middle of the stream, singing. It is a difficult piece of stage technic to have this scene well done. On smaller stages I have seen the three maidens fastened to a framework on top of a long iron rod, fixed to wheels which are moved about below, but here they were suspended from above with wires (which is much the better way) and the imitation of swimming sirens was perfect. They are disturbed by Alberich, which of the rece of dwarfs who imbalis Nichelbeim in the chief of the race of dwarfs, who inhabits Niebelheim, in the center of the earth. Niebel means Nebel or fog, and Niebelheim means simply home of the fog. The "Niebel-ung," as Alberich is called, means a descendant of the fog.

The dwarf is attracted by the singing of the sirens and he comes up to listen and see. He would fain cap-ture one of them and makes ludicrous attempts to do so. The three sisters pretend to encourage him and have good sport with the ugly old feilow. At last Alberich tires of the fruitless chase and listens to what the maidens are saying. They are sing-ing of "Rheingold," a clump of gold, of wonderful properties, fastened in the cliff. They tell how, if it were fashioned into a ring, it would give the owner power beyond measure, but none can make a ring of it save he who renounces love. The Niebelung renounces love with a curse, climbs the cliff, steals the gold and disappears in the bowels of the earth. With a wail of despair the Rhine Daughters try to catch him, but in vain. The water, which had been illumined by the shining gold, becomes black and darkness falls upon the stage.

This whole scene was admirably given. The stage settings were perfect and the singing of the three maidens superb. The part of Woglinde, the first of the Rhine Daughters, was given by Frieda Hempel for the first time. Fräulein Hempel, a product of the Stern Conservatory, attracted much attention last year with her singing at the Berlin Royal Opera but a few months after graduate. at the Berlin Royal Opera but a few months after gradu-The majestic flowing of the Rhine is wonderfully well ating from the school. She is a delightful coloratura

singer. In 1876 Lilli Lehmann sang the role of Woglinde, and her sister. Marie, took the part of Wellgunde. Wagner had great difficulty in persuading them to float about in midair on those dangerous looking machines. Lilli Lehmann at first declared she would never trust her life to such a flimsy contrivance, but she finally did so, and all went well.

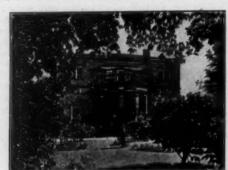
The second scene discloses the god Wotan and his wife Fricka sleeping amid majestic scenery on the top of On a distant peak a mountain. across the Rhine we see Wotan's burg, or castle, Walhall, that has been built for him by the giants Fasolt and Fafner. Wotan, aroused by Fricka, greets the burg with the ords quoted above. Wotan thirsts for power and long life (in the "Edda" the gods live forever) and he has had Walhall built as a place of refuge and protection against his ies, the dwarfs and giants, and also as a sort of heaven for fallen In his lust for power, howheroes. ever, Wotan is shortsighted, enters upon agreements that bind

So it goes on until there was to be a home for art and not for outward dis- E flat of the double basses and the B flat of the bassoons the god is mixed up in such complications that he finally

When the curtain rises we look into the Rhine sideways Walhall. Wotan promised the giants the goddess Freia,

Fricka's sister, in payment for their work. Now the very existence of the gods depends on Freia, for she guards in her garden the golden apples, the eating of which renews youth. Fricka is sorely troubled concerning Freia's im-pending fate and she bitterly reproaches Wotan for promising her charming sister to the giants. Fricka. like Juno, is a good deal of a scold, and is always henpecking Wotan for his failings, not without reason, to be sure, for Wotan, as Wagner depicts him, is a poor makeshift for a god.

Soon Freia comes in great haste, pursued by Fas Fafner, who demand of Wotan their pay. He refuses to keep his word and give up Freia and a quarrel ensues that might have led to serious results but for the timely appearance of Loge, the sly fire-god. Loge it was who advised Wotan to enter upon the agreement with the giants, promising to help him out of the dilemma and liberate Freia. In his search for a compensation for the giants he has traveled through the interior of the earth, and has learned of Alberich's theft of the "Rheingold," and how he ad fashioned it into a ring and thus acquired boundless riches and power. The giants are the natural enemies of the Niebelungen, and when they hear this they declare that they will renounce Freia if Wotan will procure for them



VILLA WAHNFRIED

Alberich's ring and gold. Wotan, seeing no way of acquiring the ring, does not agree to this, so the giants, without more ado, drag Freia away, telling Wotan that they will allow him time to think it over till evening; if he does not decide then they will take Freia for good. No sooner has the goddess of youth disappeared from their midst than the gods visibly begin to age, and Wotan realizes that he must liberate Freia, or they are all lost. So he determines to try to get the ring.

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The next scene takes us into the bowels of the earth to Niebelheim, the home of the dwarfs. Alberich, in possession of the new power acquired through the ring, holds despotic sway over the race of Niebelungen. He has made them all his slaves and compels them to search night and day for gold in the crevices of the rocks. Already he has accumulated great quantities of the precious metal. he intends to go into the upper world, and by virtue of the ring enslave the giants and gods and conquer the entire earth. Wotan and Loge appear and profess great wonder and admiration at Alberich's good fortune. They ask him how he guards the ring, and if he is not afraid of theft. Alberich shows them a "Tarnkappe" which his brother



DR. RICHTER AND HIS MARKET BAG AT BAYREUTH.

Mime, most skillful of smiths, has made for him, by means of which he can change his shape into anything desired. Wotan and Loge are astonished and pretend not to be-

lieve it until they see it proved. Alberich sets the cap on his head and changes before their eyes into an enormous serpent. Loge then asks him if he can also transform himself into an animal as small as a toad, and Alberich, not suspecting strategem, immediately changes into a toad. Wotan quickly puts his foot on it and Loge snatches the Tarnkappe from its head. Alberich, howling with rage, assumes his natural shape. The gods bind him, drag him to the upper world and compel him to force the dwarfs to

bring up the entire store of gold. Wotan also takes the ring from his finger. Alberich, on disappearing into his kingdom, curses the ring, and on this curse, curiously ugh, hangs the fate of the gods and men.

Wotan and Loge return to the mountain top just as Fasolt and Fafner appear with Freia. Wotan gives them the gold, but they demand the Tarnkappe and ring also. The god refuses to give up the ring, and the giants are about to disappear with Freia, instead of the gold, when a ghostlike apparition comes up out of the earth and warns Wotan not to keep the ring on account of its curse. is Erda, the Urweise, who has been everywhere, has seen everything and knows all things past, present and future. Wotan gives up the ring and the effect of the curse is soon seen; in dividing the golden treasure the giants quarrel and Fafner kills his brother Fasolt.

Donner, the god of thunder and lightning. now swings his hammer and causes a thunder storm. When the air clears we see a rainbow, stretching across the Rhine to the Burg Walhall. The gods cross the river, using the rainas a bridge, while from the depths of the stream be low the sorrowful voices of the Rhine Daughters are heard



COSIMA WAGNER IN THE CENTER OF GROUP

bewailing the loss of the Rheingold. Thus closes the first part of the cycle.

"Rheingold" we see gods, goddesses, giants and Wagner's musical illustration of the text is dwarfs only. wonderful and the work of the singers was on the highest

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## MAX GARRISON

Vocal Instruction PORNING OF READ TONES A SPECIALTY. BERLIN W., Helibronner 81 80 artistic plane throughout the evening. Theodor Bertram as Wotan was magnificent. He has the tall, commanding figure necessary for the part, and his voice was rich, full and penetrating. The role calls for the most part for speech-gesang or recitation in given tonal intervals, rather than real singing, and that he, in spite of this, did actually sing much of the time, is greatly to his credit. Vocally Bertram and Schumann-Heink put all others in the shade. The latter as Erda was wonderful. Her tones were thrilling.

A well rounded, splendidly given part was that of Fricka, as delineated by Madame Reuss-Belce, of Dresden. She lived the part rather than acted it. It was so perfect that

there was nothing to criticise.

Dr. Briesemeister, of Berlin, as Loge, was also admirable, both vocally and histrionically. He has mastered the role absolutely to the smallest detail. His actions were always perfectly adapted to the words of the quick witted, sly, scheming fire god, his voice was sympathetic, and he sang with great intelligence.

Fasolt's (Corvinus) voice was hardly heavy enough for the part, but Carl Braun as Fafner displayed a powerful bass organ, well adapted to the role of the ponderous giant.

Max Dawison, of the Hamburg Opera, who appeared as Alberich, has a baritone voice much too beautiful for this part. It has a lyric character and would be shown off to much greater advantage in such roles as Wolfram or Amfortas. The orchestra, under Richter, was magnificent. Neither Mottl in "Tristan" nor Muck in "Parsifal" accomplished with that body of 125 picked musicians what Richter did in "Rheingold," and the great conductor kept up throughout the four evenings of the "Ring" the pace set in "Rheingold."

Wotan (partone)
Wotan (partone)
Wotan (partone)
Wording (soprano)
Wolf (soprano)
Fricka (mezzo-soprano)
Fricka (fluence-fluen

Be it observed that Madame Schumann-Heink, the greatest artist of the entire cast, sang the little, insignificant role of Waltraute. But how she sang it! That is something one finds nowhere but in Bayreuth—the singing of little roles by great, world renowned artists. They would not do it on another stage. That Schumann-Heink did not despise the singing of small roles proves what a broad minded artist she is.

In the "Walküre" begins the story of the ring and its

curse in connection with human beings. If the ring cou be restored to the Rhine Daughters all would be well, but Fafner, the giant, by means of the magic cap of Tarnkappe, has transformed himself into an enormous dragon, which lies in a cave and guards the ring. Fafner is symbolical of the miser who hordes his gold without enjoying its benefits. No one dares fight Fafner. Wotan cannot because of his contract with him. None but a hero who has grown up amid danger and want, free from Wotan's protection, of his own free will, can kill the dragon and secure the ring. Meanwhile, forces are at work to produce such a hero. Since "Rheingold" years have intervened and much has transpired. Wotan, with Erda, has begot nine daughters, the Walkuren, whose duty it is to select among fallen warriors the heroes fit for Walhall and carry them thither on flying horses. Wotan's favorite among the Walkuren is Brünnhilde. Wotan has also wandered among the habita-tions of men and has become the father of a pair of twins, Siegmund and Sieglinde, who lost their mother and became separated in childhood.

In the first act of the "Walkure" we see the interior of Hunding's home, a rude hut, that corresponds with the character of its owner, in the forest. Siegmund, pursued by his enemies, stumbles upon the hut and seeks shelter within. Sieglinde, Hunding's wife, receives him with hospitality, little realizing that he is her brother. Hunding enters and eyes the stranger with suspicion. Siegmund, without revealing his real name, tells how he protected a woman from a horde of ruffians. These men belong to Hunding's crew, and as their chief hears that his guest

offered them resistance, he bursts into a rage and tells Siegmund to look to his satety; the usage of hospitality protects him for the night, but in the morning he will kill him. Hunding then his wife to prepare his evening drink and to retire for the night. Siegmund, homeless, weaponless, sits brooding before the fire. Sieglinde enters. She has put Hunding to sleep with a potion, and they need fear no interruption. She has fallen in love the stranger, and comes to tell him how he can get a weapon. She tells how a one eyed wanderer once forced his sword to the hilt in the mighty ash tree about which the hut is built, and points to the This was Wotan, who assumes at times the shape of a wanderer and walks about the earth. The man who can pull the sword out of the tree can swing it. Hundreds have tried to do so, but in vain Siegmund draws it out with case and tells Sieglinde his real name. Thus brother and sister are revealed to each other, but their love is already so great that this does not stand in the way of their union. Sieglinde does not love Hunding; she was forced to marry him against her will, and she feels is a right to deceive him, so she flees with Siegmund. This idea of love between brother and sister Wagner got from India. An old Indian fable tells of a case where this was the means of producing a great hero, and Wagner has Siegfried brought to the world in the same way. The whole cheme is as utterly foreign to the "Edda" as is immorality in every form, and also to the Wölsunga-Saga, from which Wagner chiefly got his material for the "Walkure."

Siegmund flees in the forest with Sieglinde, pursued by Hunding and his band.

Wotan instructs Brünnhilde to protect Siegmund in the combat to ensue between him and Hunding, and to give Siegmund the victory. Fricka, however, the guardian of the marriage tie and of virtue, demands of Wotan that he punish the perpetrators of incest, and this he is forced to agree to do, much against his will, for Siegmund and Sieglinde are his own children. So he has to countermand his order to Brunnhilde, and instructs her to see to it that Siegmund is killed.

Sieglinde, worn out by exposure, has fallen asleep in the forest, and Siegmund watches at her side, when Brünnhilde appears and announces that he must soon follow her to Walhall. He does not want to go, and she describes the joys that await him there, how he will sit in the castle with countless other heroes, tell of his battle, drink mead, and be in the presence of his father, the god Wotan. It is interesting to note how primitive races form the conception of the hereafter. Given the difference in environment and occupations, the old Teutonic idea of Walhall in no wise differs from the conception of the happy hunting grounds of the American Indians.

Siegmund finally agrees to accompany Brünnhilde to Walhall if Sieglinde can go with him. This is denied him, however, as Sieglinde still has a misson to perform on earth. At this Siegmund flatly refuses, and at last, moved with pity, Brünnhilde decides to disobey her father Wotan, and protect Siegmund in the fight. This she does and Siegmund is about to overcome Hunding, when Wotan in a great rage appears in thunder and lightning and breaks Siegmund's sword in two with his spear. Hunding gives the deadly thrust, but is himself the next moment struck dead by Wotan. Brünnhilde now fears the wrath of her father, and her first thought is to bring Sieglinde into a safe place. She takes her to a spot where Wotan never goes near, Mime's hut and Fafner's cave, in a distant forest. As a penalty for her disobedience Brünnhilde is put to sleep and surrounded by magic fire, after Wotan with a kiss has taken from her her divinity. Here she must sleep until a hero, yet unborn, a hero who knows not the meaning of fear, shall wade through the fire and claim her as his bride.

The performance of the "Walkure" was, as a whole, excellent. It is the most dramatic work on the operatic stage. The "Walkure" scene in particular was magnificent. Hans Richter himself said it had not been given with such perfection of ensemble since 1876.

Peter Cornelius, of Copenhagen, was a very good Sieg-



SCENE IN THE BAYREUTH MARKET PLACE.

mund. His voice is not quite large enough for the part, but it is of beautiful quality and he knows how to sing. His onunciation of the text was faulty. Katherina Fleischer-Edel, of the Hamburg Opera, was splendid as Sieglinde. pice was rich and warm and she sang with The Hundling of Paul Knupfer, of the Berlin Royal Opera, was a magnificent portrayal of this terror-inspiring man. His massive figure, his acting and his skillfully employed powerful bass voice all fitted the part to perfection. In the Brünnhilde of Ellen Gulbranson I was disappo She has sung the role here often, and is famed for it, but failed to see wherein the justification lies, for her is not powerful, nor did she sing with the verve and fire that we associate with this dashing amazon of the clouds. She has an imposing presence, as she stands about 6 feet 2 inches, but I know of several other artists who could sing and act the part more convincingly. The orchestra was grand again. The music of the first act is a joy forever.

A brilliant reception was given by Cosima and Siegfried Wagner at Villa Wahnfried on the evening of the 24th, to which several hundred invitations were issued. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Longworth (née Roosevelt), who attended the performance of the "Ring."

(To be continued.)

#### Ballad and Promenade Concerts for New York.

Rudolph Aronson has just signed with Messrs. Wagenhals and Kemper for a series of international popular concerts on the lines of the London Ballad and Promenade concerts, at the Astor Theater, beginning November 11 next, when four of Mr. Aronson's European artists will make their initial appearances in New York.

Carola Loos-Tooker, erstwhile prominent in Gloversville, N. Y., thence removed to Decatur, Ill., has issued a handsome booklet entitled "The Loos-Tooker School of Vocal Art." It contains a good photogravure of herself, with autograph facsimile, a quotation from Ruskin, highly philosophical and apropos, and detailed information regarding the course and method of singing original with her.

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#### AN AMERICAN PRIMA DONNA ABROAD.

Grace Whistler-Misick, the American singer whose remarkable successes abroad-notably on the Continent, and particularly in Paris-have from time to time been chronicled in the pages of THE MUSICAL COURIER, has been winning fresh laurels. During the London season just ended, Whistler-Misick also captured the English public and the critical opinion of the press, she having been heard there frequently in society "at homes," as well as in public

On the occasion of her recent recital at the Bechstein Hall, which was well patronized by society folks of the English metropolis, the noted singer received much kindly attention in well written articles from the press, a few of which are here appended:

A pleasant concert was given yesterday afternoon at Bechstein Hall by Grace Whistler-Misick, a young singer with a powerful mezzo-soprano voice of unusually bright and telling quality. Madamse Whistler-Misick showed marked intelligence in all that she undertook, and in her performance of a group of German songs by Brahms, Wolf and other composers there was much to commend, particularly in her neat and effective treatment of Brahms' "Schwalbe, sag mir an." She did better still in her French songsin fact, her very clever and expressive singing of Pierné's "Le Moulin" was resily the best performance of the afternoon.—Daily Graphic, June 28, 1906.

lought last week to have mentioned a recital given by Grace Whistler-Misick, an American singer with gifts quite out of the common. Madame Whistler-Misick has a touch of imagination all too rare in vocalists quite as accomplished, and this is made still more gracious by extreme distinction of style. Her vivid renderings of some French songs by Moreau, Pierpé and Madame de Faye-Josin were entirely delightful.—The Lady, July 19, 1906.

Grace Whistler-Misick gave a delightful concert at the Bechstein Hall yesterday afternoon. That the concert giver had studied her art well was apparent in her first song aria from Donizetti's "La Favorita," which was sung with much intelligence, fluency and clear enunciation. In this, and later in groups of German and French songs, Madame Whistler-Misick showed how thoroughly she understood the various characteristics demanded by the different national styles, while her English group was no less full of charm and effect. Mr. Kocian made a welcome reappearance with some splendid violin solos, while Madame de Faye-Josin proved herself to be a clever composer as well as a very capable pianist.—The Standard, June 28, 1906. June 28, 1906.

Grace Whistler-Misick, an American vocalist who has studied in Paria., gave an attractive recital at Bechstein Hall on Wednesday afternoon, and distinguished herself in songs by Schumann and Tachaikowsky.—The Daily Chronicle, June 30, 1906.

Grace Whistler-Misick, who gave a vocal recital to a numerous and fashionable audience in the Bechstein Hall this afternoon, comes from America, where as he enjoys a considerable reputation as a dramatic soprano. She is one of those cultured artists who can invest their singing with grace and interest. As usual noways with concert givers, Madame Whistler-Misick put forward examples in several languages, including Italian, German, French and English, the composers drawn upon being Donizetti, Schumann, Brahms, Wolf, Tachaikowsky, Moreau, Pierné and De Faye-Jozin, the songs in English being by Huhn and Campbell-Tipton. The singer did best in the Italian and French songs, especially in Pierné's "Le Moulin," her interpreting gifts seeming to lie more in the direction of light rather than the reflective forms of vocal art.—Glasgow Herald, June 28, 1906.

An agreeable vocal recital was given at Bechstein Hall yesterday afternoon by Grace Whistler-Misick, an American singer, who has studied in Paris. She possesses a strong, flexible and expressive mezzo-soprano voice, with particularly brilliant upper notes, and sings with a great deal of intelligence and dramatic feeling. She began with "O mio Fernando," from "La Favorita," which she sang with great fervor, and then followed a group of German songs, which sang with intelligence. Next came some French songs, which were interesting in themselves, and extremely well sung.—Morning Leader, June 28, 1906.

The concert room at the Bechatein Hall was crowded yesterday afternoon when Madame Whistler-Misick gave her first vocal recital. She contributed a charming and original selection of songs, and sang in a most refined and pleasing fashion.—Morning Advertiser, June 28, 1906.

The recital given by Grace Whistler-Misick attracted a large audience to the Bechatein Hall yesterday afternoon. Gifted with a pleasing voice of good quality, this arflat displayed considerable versatility in Italian, German, French and English songs. She pronounced German even better than French, and was heard to advantage in lieder by Schussann, Brahms, Wolf and Tschaikowsky. Her French songs included Pierné's "Le Moulin," also "Le coeur qui chante," a pleasing composition by Madame de Faye-Josin, a talented pianist, who accompanied her song and also contributed some solos.—Morning Post, June 38, 1906.

Grace Whistler-Misick, who gave a vocal recital at the Bechstein Hall on Wednesday afternoon, has a fine mezzo-soprano voice of wide range and dramatic caliber. She sings with a vast amount of expression, as was at once evidenced in her fervent delivery of

the old fashioned air, "O min Fernando" from "La Favorita." In dividualism and a certain charm of manner was marked in all her readings, and made her performances interesting to listen to. dividualism and a certain charm ber readings, and made her perform Modern Society, July 7, 1906.

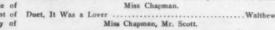
#### CHICAGO SINGER MAKES DEBUT.

MRS. GRACE WHISTLER-MISICK APPEARS BEFORE A LONDON AUDIENCE. Mas. Grace Whister-Misick, of Chicago, made her debut as a singer in Bechstein Hall before a brillian audience this afternoon, assisted by Kocian, Kubelik's rival. Mrs. Misick's success was an notable that the American Women's Club has secured her for a luncheon to Congressman and Mrs. Longworth.. Mrs. Whister-Misick will also sing at Mrs. Arthur L. Fay's "at home."—Special Cable to the Chicago Daily News, London, June 27, 1906.

#### Song Recital by a Boice Pupil.

John Prindle Scott, a baritone pupil of Mrs. Henry Smock Boice, gave a successful song recital at Gilbertsville, N. Y., on August 16. Mr. Scott was assisted by Evelyn Chapman, soprano. Each number was beautifully sung, and the interesting program was as follows:

the interesting program was as follows:
Di Provenza il Mar, Traviata
Cupid at the Ferry E. German
The Green is on the Grass
Little Boy BlueFlorence B. Joyce
Miss Charman
Requiem
Back to Ireland
Mr. Scott.
Duet, Night Hymn At Sea
Miss Chapman, Mr. Scott.
Farewell, Ye Valleys, Maid of Orleans
Miss Chapman.
Songs from A Lover in Damascus
Where the Abana Flows.
. In the Great Bazaars.
Allah, Be With Us.
Mr. Scott.
She is So Innocent, Le Fille de Madame AngotLecocq
In Remembrance John Prindle Scott
The SecretJohn Prindle Scott





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## CONCERNING AN AMERICAN SCHOOL OF COMPOSITION.

BY WILSON G. SMITH.

Of late there has been much hue and cry concerning the great school of American composition, which as yet is not, but is as yet to be. And I note, with a sage closing of one optic, that those who are doing the most crying are of the class who devote their exclusive attention to telling others what ought to be and must be done to create a school. The men who are composing-and producing most excellent and praiseworthy music-are too busy to engage in the vapid war of words and arguments. In other words, they are at least doing something to provoke attention and furnish the critical doctors with a diagnosis on present conditions for which they are too modest to prescribe patent nostrums. The trouble is that our native composerswe have men of undisputed talent-ignore their critical advice and go on composing good music, irrespective of national color or atmosphere. Music is, after all, but an audible expression of a personal mood, and so long as the mood possesses a universal appeal, what boots it whether it be American, or Japanese, or what not? True art is universal. Its underlying principles are the same, irre-spective of geographical location, and its just appreciation is simply a matter of culture. The higher the culture the more intense the receptivity. The tomtom of the savage awakens in the aboriginal latent emotions by the same rocess that a symphony touches the emotional appreciation of a refined and cultured civilization. Now, all this talk about a national school amounts to nil. As an American citizen I am interested more in the quality of the music we are producing than in any so called local color it may possess. The music of Beethoven and Mozart appeals to me not because it is German, but because it possesses the vital principles of art and inspiration. By the same token I enthuse over the master thoughts of Tschaikowsky, Saint-Saëns, Verdi, et al., with no qualms of conscience because their nationality is different from mine. True, there may be a local coloring to their inspirations, but this is a side issue to the fundamental and vivifying principles of an universal art which their recorded emotions represent. Their appeal is direct to humanity, and being human I am touched and respond to their inspirational appeal. When I look at a master painting I am impressed by its faithful reproduction of life as I see and understand it, and it does no to me to inquire in what school the artist studied, or whether his pigments are of foreign or domestic manufac-That he has grasped the basic principles of his art and given me a vital life principle is quite enough to win my admiration and awaken my art perceptions. Let us have more good music and less talk, and some day a genius

will arise who will give us a tone picture of life as it pulsates in this great cor ntineat of ours. Until then let us not deery what is, and howl over what ought to be, but cept with appreciative consideration the tentative efforts of our present coterie of talented composers who feel the artistic impulse, even though it may be to a degree a reflex of foreign influence. In the meantime, I subjoin a poetic outburst which I submit to the howlers for an American school of composition. In it will be found the elements of the serious and the gay, while for the final coda I append a voicing the sentiments of the popular song of the refrain day. If those who deplore the absence of a national school will evoke the creative muse and wed it to the genuine American music, I will gladly accept its dedication, along with other of our good American citizens. Come, gentle-men, write a few bars of original music, and talk less. Talk is cheap-and so is some music.

As an example:

I sat alone one evening on a chair, And gazed the while intently in the air. The stars shone brightly in the azure blue (I did not count them, they were not so few) When suddenly across the placid sky storm cloud burst; I heard the startled cry Of storm birds passing in their rapid flight And vanishing in dark and fearsome night, The elemental forces held a "func, A strange similitude to "common drunk." And as I pondered on the change so drear, These thoughts occurred to me to give me cheer-Somewhere the sun is shining, Somewhere the stars are bright, Somewhere the world is smiling, Somewhere there is no night.

#### Rider-Kelsey Up in the Thousand Islands.

After her triumphant appearances at the Cincinnati Music Festival, the Sängerfest at Newark, N. J., and at St. Paul, Minn., Corinne Rider-Kelsey went to the Thousand Islands to seek the holiday that her friends declared she had rightfully earned. It is now well known how rapidly this gifted singer mounted the ladder that has placed her in the front rank of American sopranos. Mrs. Kelsey will have many engagements this coming season. She will sing five times in New York, two of her appearances being with the Pittsburg Orchestra. The singer will begin her autumn tour at the Maine State Festivals, in October. Mrs. Kelsey will again be under the management of Henry Wolfsohn.

Samara has finished a new opera called "Rhea."

#### Neitzel's Barber Not Talkative.

Otto Neitzel, who is to make a tour of lecture recitals in this country later in the season, tells many an amusing story of his student days in Berlin, when he contrived to lead the strenuous life of a student of philosophy and instructor of music, a Wagnerian devotee, and that of a man about town and frequenter of cafés, as was the custom of his day.

When preparing for his doctor's degree Neitzel usually counted his day as beginning at 4 p. m., at which hour he put in an appearance at some dinner or coffee society, as he quaintly terms a form of entertainment unique to Ger many. These diversions always included the presence of ladies, of whom the future musical authority was an avowed admirer. At 7 p. m. Neitzel gave a music lesson, and 8:30 practiced the Wagnerian scores with some disciple as earnest as himself. Later he attended a soirée at the house of some of the nobility or at one of the Embassies, where his ready wit and musical accomplishments made him a welcome visitor. At 1 o'clock a. m. the jeunesse dorée, including Neitzel, went to the Kaiserhof Café, then the center of the intellectual world of Berlin. Exhausted with the studies of the early part of the day, and with the diversions of the later hours, Neitzel always returned home about 4 a. m. more dead than alive, and when at 8 the barber came to shave him the manipulati of this artist never even disturbed his deep repose. Neitzel, when strolling down the Potsdammerstrasse, frequently noted the respectful salutations of a person whom he did not know, and after about two months of this finally stopped his civil friend and inquired where he had the honor of making his acquaintance. "Oh, sir," murmured the man reproachfully, "I am your barber."

#### Elfert-Florio at Asbury Park.

Signor Elfert-Florio, the New York tenor, has had excellent success as soloist at the Pryor Band concerts at Asbury Park. The following paragraph is from a report in the Asbury Park Morning Press:

Pryor and his band scored another one of his regular successes at the Arcade Saturday. The audience was, as usual, the famous bandmaster's own, and was heartily in sympathy with every selection. Signor Effert-Florio made friends of every auditor with his magnificent tenor voice. His solo was encored and the great audience clamored in vain for more after the famous songster had finished. The program closed with the grand caprice from Bucalousi, "A Hunting Scene," and the voices of the musicians blending with the tones from the instruments made a chorus that was a fitting close for the grand performance.

"Circe," a new opera by the brothers Hillemacher, will be given at Lausanne, next winter.



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#### NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, August 21, 1906

The company of operatic singers, which, under the artistic direction of Henry Russell, will fill a ten weeks' engagement here, is as follows:

Sopranos-Miles. Dereyne, Opera Nice, Marseilles, etc.; Milesia, Pergola, Firenze; Nielsen, San Carlo, Naples, and Covent Garden, London; Mmes. Nordica, star engagenents only; Tarquini, Massimo Theater, Palermo.

Mezzo sopranos—Mmes. Colombati, Metropolitan Opera

House, New York; Monti-Baldini, La Scala, Milan; San Carlo, Naples; Viviani, Metropolitan Opera House, New York.

Tenors-MM. Constantino, Theater Royal, Madrid, and Covent Garden, London; Giaconne, utilité at all the leading opera houses; Martin, Theater Lyrique, Milan; Sacchetti,

Vittorio Emanuele, Turin. Baritones-MM. Angelini Fornari, Covent Garden, Lon don, and Scala de Milan; Pratoddi, Theater Costanzi, Rome; Galperni, Imperial Theater, St. Petersburg.

Bassos-MM. Perello, Royal Theater, Madrid, and San Carlo, Naples; Perini, Imperial Theater, St. Petersburg; Valentini, utilité of the European Opera House.

Bassos-Bouffes-MM. Barocchi, Costanzi Theater, Rome; Viviani, Metropolitan Opera House, New York.

-MM. Arnaldo Conti, Opera, Buenos Ayres; Giuseppe Angelini, Adriano Theater, Rome, and Real Theater, St. Jono.

Assistant conductor-M. Gennaro Bisaccia, Covent Garden, London, and San Carlo, Naples.

Stage managers-MM. Albertieri and Viviani, Metropolitan Opera House, New York. HARRY B. LOEB.

#### Frank E. Morse on Music in Nature.

Frank E. Morse, the Boston vocal teacher, read a paper entitled "Music in Nature" at the recent Field meeting of the Appalachian Mountain Club, held at the Crawford House, White Mountains, N. H. Mr. Morse presented many interesting and striking views of his subject and he was listened to with close attention by his audience.

Mr. Morse had a very successful summer normal school for vocal teachers in Boston during the month of July. At present Mr. Morse is camping up in the White Mountains, and as he is very fond of climbing, he is putting in considerable time at this form of recreation. A few days ago he, in company with several others, made what is deemed the most difficult climb in the White Mountains, when the ascent up over the head wall of Huntington's Ravine to the ummit of Mt, Washington was made by this Boston musician and his friends.

Mr. Morse will begin his next season in Steinert Hall, Boston, Mass., about September 14.

#### Ricardo Ruiz in Los Angeles.

Coincident with the disaster at San Francisco, there came to Los Angeles a number of talented men and women who were shaken out of their opportunities there. Among them was none more acceptable than Ricardo Ruiz. A violinist of mature years, of much study and practice and with the best masters of the musical world, and with a reputation as a soloist which includes three continents-Europe, Africa and America.

It is spoken, knowingly, of him that he has performed before Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle, the Prince of Wales, the Czar of Russia, and has traveled and delighted ense audiences all through Cuba, the West Indies and Mexico. Los Angeles is indeed fortunate in having such a distinguished artist in her midst.

It is much to the credit of the music loving public of this city that it is more than pleased to find his name on program and to testify to its appreciation of his powers by

the most rapturous applause.

The recent concerts of Ellen Beach Yaw were rendered even more popular by the renditions of this splendid musi-cian, and at the concert of the Lyric Club in Simpson Auditorium he was the recipient of magnificent approval. Señor Ruiz has played at numerous private entertainments and recitals in the city, giving to his auditors the greatest pleasure in every instance. He lost all his musical in the fire following the earthquake in San Francisco, to

# **AMERICA ENTIRE SEASON 1906-07**

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and ability, have generously supplied his missing scores, and Los Angeles is to be congratulated that she is to have the honor of adding to her people this talented gentleman.

He is a distinct addition to the musical circles of the city, and his cordial reception, not only by the music loving public, but by all the city's best musicians, is a proof of the cordiality that exists at all times among true artists.

STANLEY DUBOIS.

#### HOLLMAN HAILED AS "KING OF THE VIOLON-CELLO.

The renowned 'cellist, Joseph Hollman, who is coming to this country this autumn for another tour under the direction of Henry Wolfsohn, is the hero of many triumphs Since he played here he has appeared in France and Eng-In London he played before the King, and, as elsewhere told in THE MUSICAL COURIER, he was decorated by the ruler of Great Britain. The composer, Saint-Saëns, who was honored the same time, appeared with Hollman at the concert and at other concerts in London and several cities in France. The appended press notices refer to concerts given last spring by Hollman at Nice and Pau. There is also a notice from the French paper published in London, in which the writer extols Hollman for his sympathy and readiness to assist at a charity concert or whenever his art could be used to benefit the compatriots of the

What is there to say of Hollman that has not already been said? "The king of violencellists," that is what he truly is—prodigious, extraordinary. Not only as a performer, but as a composer, he also presented himself, in the andante and the "Rouet," two delightful and extremely difficult works. At the conclusion of the concert, the numerous friends of the artist entered the lobby to shake hands with Hollman, and with the graciousness known to all, he greeted his admirers with cordial affability.—La Petite Revue du

Mr. Hollman is able to display, like in the symphonic variation Mr. Hollman is able to display, like in the symptonic variations, by Boellmann, the most ingenious and piquant virtuosity. The accuracy of his bowing and technical skill imparted to the heavy violoncello an alertness unsuspected of him. But he is above all an artist of deep sentiment, who correctly expresses the style demanded in the classical andante and the serious sonata in G minor, by Handel.—Le Rapide, April 4, 1906.

Rarely have we heard in Pau artists of such caliber as Mr. J. Hollman, who gave a classical concert yesterday in the Salle dea Miss Eddy sang at Willman, Minn., at Omaha and Central City, Neb. Miss Eddy is a pupil of Oscar Saenger.

C minor, by Saint-Saëns, the symphonic variations, by Boellmann, etc. Mr. Hollman possesses a great style, by turns, powerful and flexible, dainty and virile, nervous and cajoling. The art of nuance is brought to the highest point by the extraordinary precision in the execution—be it in the passages of a fugue or naive sweetness. The execution in the variations symphonic, by Boellmann, was ravishing; the sonata in G minor produced a great ef-

gether with his wardrobe. H. E. Huntington and Gen H. G. Otis, gentlemen of this city, knowing of his worth and ability, have generously supplied his missing scores, and ability, have generously supplied his missing scores, and Los Angeles is to be constanted that she is to have was greeted with prolonged applause .- L'Indépendant, April 4,

This is the week of violoncellists. J. Hollman was the third that we have heard in eight days. The two others were very good. This one was excellent. He has been surnamed "the king of the violoncello." It is a fact that he towers above the others, and he masters and governs at will his instrument. He makes his instrument sing soulfully. He manages it with virtuosity. He surmounts difficulties, phrasing by turns with the largest and most classical style, and using his bow in complicated and chromatic passages, in the most extraordinary manner. His success yesterday evening at the Hotel Gassion before a select audience amounted to a triumph.—Le Memorial des Pyrénées, April 4, 1906.

It requires an artist of Mr. Hollman's type to interest the audience in such a degree in the difficulties of the violoncello. In the hands of the master, Hollman, the instrument is controlled with such ease, with perfect surety of touch, that one is absolutely fascinated. Besides, Hollman is now one of the violoncellists of the widest reputation .- Le Telegramme, April 5, 1906.

J. Hollman—you all know him—you who have assisted at charity concert, for never has he refused his support when it w for our compatriots. Hollman is the king of the violoncello. is absolute master. His instrument does not merely play, it sings; it weeps. For him there are no difficulties; what others imitate, he creates under his magical bow. He is not a mere interpreter, he is a creator, a poet, a charmer.—Journal Française de Londes.

#### A Hember of the Boston Symphony Dead.

David W. Fudge, a member of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, died at his home, 129 Cambridge street, Cambridge. Mass., Wednesday of last week. Death was due to an accident which the musician sustained on the Saturday before on the Prison Point Bridge in Charlestown. While crossing the bridge Mr. Fudge was overcome by vertigo and fell. Besides his duties as violinist in the famous orchestra, Mr. Fudge was employed as teacher in the New England Conservatory of Music. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Robert Walker at the Church of the Ascension in Cambridge. The Harvard Quarter assisted at the obsequies. The interment was at Cambridge Cemetery.

Elsie Ray Eddy, the young Brooklyn soprano, has re-

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#### THE WORCESTER FESTIVAL PLANS.

Details for the Worcester (Mass.) Music Festival, which takes place October 2, 3, 4 and 5, in Mechanics' Hall, Worcester, are sufficiently completed to authorize an announcement of principal artists engaged and works to be performed at this time. Several engagements are still pending, but they do not affect the general plan. works to be performed are Handel's oratorio, "Israel in Egypt," Wednesday night, October 1: Verdi's Manzoni and Brahms' "Song of Destiny" on Thursday night, with artists' night on Friday. Thursday afternoon is the regular symphony concert, and Friday afternoon Olga Samaroff, the festival pianist, will appear. The conductors of the festival will be Wallace Goodrich and Franz Kneisel, who have conducted in former years, and the Boston Symphony Orchestra of sixty pieces has been engaged. The artists thus far engaged include Elizabeth Parkina, Margaret C. Rabold and Louise Ormsby, so-pranos; Louise Homer, Isabelle Bouton and Grace Munon, contraltos; Paul Dufault and Daniel Beddoe, tenors; Emilio de Gogorza and Frederic Martin, bassos. Bessie Bell Collier, for ten years a pupil of Franz Kneisel, is to appear in a violin number on artists' night, but she is not the regular festival violinist.

Brahms' "Song of Destiny" has never before been given at the music festival and the management has decided to give this choral work in connection with Verdi's "Requiem," the soloists for the latter including Madame Bouton, Miss Ormsby and Mr. Martin, the tenor to be announced later. Mr. Dufault, formerly a Worcester singer, who has achieved success in oratorio work since his removal to New York, comes back to his former home as a festival artist and will sing in the oratorio, "Israel in with Mrs. Rabold. Mlle. Parkina, Homer, Gogorza and Beddoe will sing artists' night. The annual bulletin giving the complete scheme of concerts, lists of artists, detailed programs and date and plan of sale of tickets, will be issued September 15.

#### Riccarde A. Lucchesi in New York.

Riccardo A. Lucchesi, the composer, pianist, music critic and vocal teacher, of San Francisco, is in New York. Mr. Lucchesi is one of the many who lost everything in the earthquake of last April. As Mr. Lucchesi is a member of the Manuscript Society of New York, it is expected that he will give a concert in the East before he returns to the Pacific Coast. If the concert can be arranged for the end of September or the first week in October, the program

will be made up of Mr. Lucchesi's trio and quintet and two

For five days after the earthquake Mr. Lucchesi lived on sandwich a day, and these frugal meals he shared with those who had even less. Illness added to the discomforts and misery of those terrible days following the earthquake. When Mr. Lucchesi felt physically able, he took advantage of the free transportation offered by the railroads and went Portland, Ore., with other refugees. His fame had preceded him, and he was received by a committee of ladies, and entertained for weeks in that hospitable city. The musicians of Oregon, assisted by the ladies, arranged a benefit concert which netted a handsome sum for the needy artist. Mr. Lucchesi's fellow artists in Portland were grieved to learn that he had lost his two concert grand anos, all his music, many valuable manuscripts and a fine Mr. Lucchesi has not quite decided whether he will return to San Francisco or go to Portland. He will. however, settle this question within the next month.

While in New York Mr. Lucchesi will arrange to have a book on Italy published. This book is entitled "Notes on Modern Italy." After thirty years' residence in this ntry, Mr. Lucchesi revisited his native land a year and a half ago, and the wonderful progress made since his departure from there inspired him to write a book, in which he describes the progress along all lines, musically, commercially, politically, the position of the Church, literature, the drama, agriculture—in a word, every department of human interest

#### Saint-Saens and Hollman Decorated by King Edward.

During his recent visit in London, Joseph Hollman, the cellist, in conjunction with the eminent composer, Saint-Saens, gave a recital of Saint-Saens' compositions. artists were requested by King Edward to repeat the program at Buckingham Palace before the royal family. At the conclusion of the concert the King conferred upon each artist the gold medal of the Order of Art and As both of the distinguished artists are to be in the United States during the season of 1906-7, they will Negotiations are pending bedoubtless appear together. tween the managers and clubs and societies desirous of hearing these artists in joint recitals. One of the works played at the London concerts was Saint-Saëns 'cello concerto, which the composer has dedicated to Hollman, the great 'cello virtuoso.

#### SUMMER ENGAGEMENTS FOR CHARLTON ARTISTS.

The dog days of July, August and September are usually periods of inactivity for the stars who are most in the ablic eye during the winter, but a few of Loudon G. Charlton's more energetic artists are meeting the demands made upon them for summer engagements.

The Damrosch Orchestra has just closed its six week season at Ravinia Park, Chicago, terminating a season of appearances, which began at Willow Grove, Philadelphia, late in May. The official figures show that during the ten weeks of his summer season 746,862 people heard Mr. Damrosch and his orchestra in their daily programs of solid music. To the persons interested in the higher musical development of this country these figures give food for thought. The value of this missionary work of Mr. nrosch can scarcely be overestimated.

David Bispham returned from Europe on August 11, and on the 13th opened a series of summer recita! appear-

ances, the first one at Magnolia, Mass.

Madame Shotwell-Piper will appear in three performances at a September festival in Charlotte, N. C.

Francis Rogers, the baritone, has been heard in his most erious recital programs at Manchester, Mass., on July 20; Northeast Harbor, Me., August 2; Rye Beach, N. H., August 6 and York Harbor, Me., August 10, and he will continue his summer appearances until the opening season of his regular winter season.

Kelley Cole, tenor, appears at Bar Harbor, in "Elijah," with the Choral Association of that place, in which Mr. Damrosch is a sympathetic and helpful adviser.

William Harper, basso, sings in "Elijah" at Ocean Grove, on September 3.

on van Hoose, tenor, appeared twice in festival at Knoxville, Tenn., July 19 and 20, with his usual success.

#### Dethier, the Violinist, to Come in October.

Gaston Dethier, organist and musical director at St. Francis Xavier Church, has, with Madame Dethier, sailed for Europe. They will return October 10, in company with Edouard Dethier, the young Belgian violinist, who, under the management of R. E. Johnston, will make his first American tour during the season of 1906-7.

The Stern Conservatory in Berlin had 1,080 students last season; the Carlsruhe Conservatory had 779, and the Mannheim Conservatory, 486.



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HOTEL CECIL, LONDON, AUGUST 15, 1906.

The wonderful young Russian violinist, Mischa Elman, whose appearances the past season have always been the occasion of crowded houses and enthusiastic applause, has achieved another success, this time in the presence of roy-Commanded by the Prince of Wales to play at Marlborough House, Elman was obliged to cancel an engagein the Provinces in order to appear before Royal Highnesses. On the program he was down for two numbers, but had to play a third, being the only one of the appearing artists who was encored. Another triumph! But then, all his appearances are triumphs, which this young man takes quite calmly and without undue excitement.

Thirty concerts by Mme. Albani and Ada Crossley are to be given in the Provinces during the autumn.

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Blanche Marchesi, who has just left London for the Continent, where she will spend the summer holidays, sang in two performances of the Moody-Manners Company last week. The first time was on Wednesday afternoon at the matinee, when "II Trovatore" was given, Mme Marchesi taking the role of Leonora. Of her interpretation the Morning Post critic had this to say:

"Blanche Marchesi, who made one of her rare appearances upon the stage on this occasion, did the fullest justice to the part of Leonora. Not only did she give the many florid passages with admirable vocalization, but she also rose to great dramatic heights. Into the 'Miserere' scene she infused an immense amount of intensity, more, in fact, than is generally to be heard, and gave that section re passionate force than, as usually sung, it seemed hitherto to possess."

On the following Friday evening Mme. Marchesi sang Santuzza in "Cavalleria Rusticana," again scoring a great success, a critic remarking that "the dramatic side of the opera was brought uppermost by the powerful reading of the part of Santuzza, which was given by Blanche Marwho by her two appearances in Italian opera, new and old this week, had orce more made it clear that her dra-matic powers are as great as her command of vocal effect."

@ @ Albert Spalding, the violinist, who since his debut last November has been playing with great success on the Continent, has arranged to give four orchestral concerts at Queen's Hall, assisted by the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Land.
mence at the end of October. tra, conducted by Landon Ronald. The concerts will com-

Already there are many announcements of concerts and recitals to take place in the autumn months and during the winter. At the three concerts which are to be given at the new Colston Hall, in Bristol, Harold Bauer is announced for the first one in November and Frederica Richardson will sing, Mischa Elman for the second and Mark Hambourg for the third, when Ebenezer Prout will conduct a performance of his concerto for organ and or-

chestra. Mr. Riseley's local band, supplemented by member's of the London Symphony Orchestra, will take part in these concerts.

Prizes and medals are announced from every school and college in the land. One of those who seems to have taken and scholarships everywhere is Gwladys Roberts. She has obtained at the Royal Academy the Rutson Prize for singing and the scholarship founded in memory of Lilian Eldee, and previously she gained successively the bronze and silver medals and the Certificate of Merit for singing, also the bronze medal for sight singing and reading, the Sainton Dolby Prize, the Llewellyn Thomas gold medal, the Swansea Eisteddfod prize, the Rutson Memorial prize and the Westmoreland scholarship. That she nas been engaged for concerts and festivals in the autumn nas been engageo is should go without saying.

When Helene Valma made her first appearance in London the critics were unanimous in praise of her rich contralto voice, and her subsequent appearances, whether in the city or in the provinces, have only confirmed the opin-ions then expressed. Whether singing excerpts from operas or a simple ballad, there was but one opinion as to the beauty of her voice and the artistic talent displayed, and recalls and encores were always in order. Next month Miss Valma will go to America, where a tour is now being arranged, and it is expected that she will repeat her successes in concert and recitals.

The other day Armand Lecomte introduced a new se "Triste Ritorno" (by Richard Barthelmy) to zondon at a recital, which was highly appreciated. As Mr. Lecomte has the rare faculty of making a dull song interesting from his fine singing, a really good song gets a splendid inter-pretation at his hands. Having made a reputation as a singer in America, Mr. Lecomte came to London about a year ago, making his first appearance at the Salle Erard, where he was immediately received as a valuable addition to the artistic ranks. Since that time he has been heard at many concerts, singing in all the principal halls and at many private houses. He has now decided to make London his home and will receive a limited number of pupils, who are anxious to study the "old Italian method" with an Italian master.

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Clara Butt has quite recovered from a recent serious operation, so that the date for her first public appear in the autumn has been fixed. She is to sing at Albert Hall on October 13 and has already many engagements booked ~ for the winter.

An artist whose reappearance in London and the provinces after a number of years' absence will be of importance, is that of Godowsky. During the winter he will play three engagements in London, coming to England specially for these appearance

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Frederic Warren, the tenor, will make his first appear-

wiil sing the "Air de Lienski" from Tschaikowsky's opera 'Onegin," and Siegmund's "Love Song," from "Die Wal-ture" (with orchestra) and a number of songs with piano accompaniment, by Massenet, Nevin and Holmes. The orchestra at the Dieppe Casino is a fine one of fifty performers, under the direction of a well known Parisian conductor, Gabriel Marie.

**400 400** 

The Moody-Manners Opera Company continue their seaon at the Lyric, where they have sung all the best known of the modern and classical operas. Tomorrow evening, when they sing the "Marriage of Figaro" (which has not been heard in London for many years) they will accede to the composer's directions regarding the orchestra, which will consist of twenty-four performers only, and will be constituted of instruments provided for in the original score. Mme. Moody, Rosina Beynon, Lucy Lever, Lewys James, Frederick Earle and Charles Magrath will be the

At a recent symphony concert at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, the young violinist, Albert Spalding, was one of the soloists. Mme. Melba sang three songs, all of which were encored, the most successful one being Gounod's 'Ave Maria," in which Mr. Spalding played the violin obligato, both artists being again and again recalled.

Sarasate, the Spanish violinist, and Berthe Marx-Goldchmidt have arranged to pay a visit to this country in the autumn, when they will give recitals in London and also make a tour through the leading Provincial towns.

@ @

Two of the soloists who have been engaged by David Bispham for the London production of Liza Lehmann's new opera, "The Vicar of Wakefield," are Isabel Jay, for Olivia, and Miss Moreen, for Sophia. Miss Jay has sung in England for several seasons and is a great favorite Miss Moreen, pupil of Mme. Nevada, is well known in the usical world and has sung in concerts, recitals and drawing rooms.

On Saturday evening the Promenade concerts will open with a long and varied program of thirteen numbers. There are three overtures included in this lengthy feast of music, the one of "William Tell," the "Tannhäuser" overture, and Tschaikowsky's "1812." There is also the "Peer Gynt" suite, a concerto, and introduction to Act III of "Lohen-grin." Perceval Allen will sing "Ocean, Thou Mighty Monster," and Lloyd Chandos and W. A. Peterkin will be heard in vocal numbers. Albert Fransella is to play the flute part of the Mozart concerto for that instrument.

Susan, Countess of Malmesbury, continues the series of "English Nursery Rhymes" in French, that have been appearing in The Queen. The one for last week was "La Petite Fée" and the music, as well as the paraphrase, is

#### Petschnikoff Played for Russian Nobility.

The great Russian violinist, Alexandre Petschnikoff, recently played before members of the Russian nobility at a musicale given by the Princess Ourosoff at the villa of the Princess, Berchtesgaden, in the Tyrol. The Princess, who is an accomplished musician, played the piano accompaniments for Petschnikoff. This noble lady has enter-tained many of the celebrated artists of the world at both winter and summer residences. Among those present at the musicale was the reigning Duchess Marie of Anhalt, and the result of the meeting was most gratifying, for she bestowed upon Petschnikoff the Russian Grand Order for Art and Sciences.

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## SCHUMANN AS A WRITER.



HIS CRITICISMS.

BY ARTHUR M. ABELL

III.

"Kritisieren ist leichter als besser machen" runs the old German adage, and few critics there be who can at once pass sound judgment upon a work of art, and themselves produce an art work. Robert Schumann was an exception to this truth. He was one of the greatest critics of all time, and, in fact, among the composers of all time he was the greatest and fairest critic that ever lived. He was furthermore a writer of creative force, and he possessed marked literary style. Not only was Schumann lightning quick in ideas, but his intuitions were new; and when the chief literary work of the Neue Zeitschrift für Musik devolved upon his shoulders, he had at beck and call conceptions which for absolute originality were delightful. His writings had a quaintness and a color that were unique. His fertile fancy evolved a whole cast of half fictitious characters, the "Davidsbündler," whose vigorous war against Philistinism in music he used as a framework for his comment. Masking himself under "Florestan" and "Euschius," Clara under "Chiara," Wieck under "Master Raro," and so forth, he revolved these living puppets upon the stage, putting into their mouths lines of a sententious weight, musical value and vital interest unsurpassed then or since in musical criticism.

One of the earliest and most effective of his writings was the famous "Chopin, op. 2," a criticism of Chopin's fantasy upon variations upon Mozart's "La ci darem la mano," the article which proclaimed Chopin's genius abroad in Germany.

"Eusebius opened the door softly and stepped in. You know his pallid face, and the ironic smile with which he loves to whet our expectations. I sat with Florestan at the piano. Florestan, as you are aware, is one of those rare men of music who seem to have a premonition of everything new or extraordinary that is coming; but today a surprise was in store for him. With the words, 'Hats off, gentlemen, a genius!' Eusebius laid a piece of music on the rack. We could not see the title. I absently fingered over the leaves; the veiled enjoyment of music unheard has something mysterious about it. And besides, to my mind, every composer has his own peculiar appearance in the notes; Beethoven looks different from Mozart just as Jean Paul's prose looks different from that of Goethe. Here it as as if entirely strange eyes were peeping out at me, flower eyes, basilisk eyes, peacock eyes, maiden's eyes; and in some places it seemed even brighter. I thought I saw Mozart's 'La ci darem la mano' interwoven through many a chord. Leporello seemed to be winking at me, and Don Juan flew past in his white mantle. 'Now, play it,' said Florestan.

"Eusebius obeyed, and we listened, shoved back into the recess of a window. Eusebius played as if inspired, and called forth countless figures of most living life; it was as if the enthusiasm of the moment had lifted him above his usual powers. To be sure, Florestan's entire approval was expressed only in a happy smile, and the remark that the variations might have been by Beethoven, or Franz Schubert, had they been piano virtuosi; but when he looked at the title page and read only 'La ci darem la mano, varie pour pianoforte avec acc. d'orchester, par Frédéric Chopin,' in amazement we both cried out: 'An opus 2!' How our faces glowed with astonishment as we exclaimed: 'That's something like it, again! Chopin—never heard the name before—who can he be?' 'Anyway, a genius.' Wasn't that where Zerline or Leporello laughed?

"Heated with wine, Chopin, and our wild talk, we went to Master Raro (Wieck), who laughed heartily at us, and displayed little curiosity at the opus 2. 'I know all about you and your new school enthusiasm!' he said. 'Bring me the Chopin tomorrow.' We promised to do so; Eusebius went quietly home; I stayed a little while with Master Raro; and Florestan, who had been without lodgings for a while, hurried back to my house through the moonlight.

"At midnight I found him in my room on the sofa, with his eyes shut. 'Chopin's variations,' he began as if in a dream, 'are still running in my head; it's so dramatic,' he went on, 'and certainly Chopin like enough; the introduction is such a unit in itself. Do you remember Leporello's jumps in thirds? That seemed to me the least fitted to the whole! and the theme, why did he write it in B? The variations, the adagio, and the finale, really have something



Robert Schumann, after he became insane, one year before his death. Sketched by Laurens in the asylum at Endernich, in 1855. By permission of Die Musik.

to them; genius gleams out of every measure. Of course, dear Julius, Don Juan, Zerline, Leporello and Masetto are the leading characters; Zerline's answer is depicted amorously enough in the theme; the first variation has, perhaps, a little coquettish dignity about it; the Spanish grandee flirts very pleasantly with the peasant girl. This introduces the second variation, which is at once confiding, argumentative and comic, as though two lovers were chasing each other and laughing a great deal at it. But everything is changed in the third! There it is all fairy dances and moon-

light; Masetto hovers in the background swearing audibly, but without effect, as that doesn't disturb Don Juan. what do you think of the fourth? Eusebius played it just How forwardly and with what abandon she comes forward to meet his advances! The adagio, however (and it seems natural that Chopin should repeat the first part), is in B flat minor, properly enough, and offers a fine moral warning to Don Juan. It is so mischievous and charming that Leporello should play eavesdropper behind the hedge, laughing and jesting; that the oboes and clarinets should lavish their allurements, and that the B flat major in full bloom should denote the first kiss of love. But all of that is nothing compared with the last movement-more wine Julius?-where all of Mozart's finale comes into playpopping champagne corks, ringing glasses, Leporello's voice interrupting, then the demons coming to seize and torture him, Don Juan fleeing, and then the end, that beautifully assuages and concludes everything.' Florestan ended by saying that he had experienced similar feelings only in the Alps. When on a clear day the evening sun creeps up to the highest mountain tops, higher and higher until the last beam has vanished, there comes a moment when the white giants of the Alps close their eyes, and we feel that we have witnessed a heavenly vision. 'And now sleep, Julius, and awake to new dreams.' 'Dear Florestan,' I answered, 'these feelings of your private soul are mendable, though perhaps a bit subjective; but as little as Chopin needs to have his genius proclaimed, so low do I also bow my head before such genius, such effort, and such mastery.' And after that we fell asleep."

Schumann treated young reproductive geniuses with the same kindness. Henri Vieuxtemps, the Belgian violinist, later so famous, played at a Gewandhaus when only four-teen years old, and Schumann wrote of him:

teen years old, and Schumann wrote of him:

"To judge by the applause the performance was unheard of. Clapped coming out, clapped often in the middle, clapped at the end, in the tutti, called out—and all this in the Leipsic Gewandhaus!

"To see a dozen Frenchmen clapping count for more than a hall full of German Beethoven devotees sleeping with delight. The Frenchmen clap with every nerve, from head to foot; the enthusiasm clashes them together like cymbals. The Germans get through it at the end, in short collected epochs, and compare superficially with the others.

\* \* \* then comes the mezzo forte which distinguished us before.

"This time it was quite otherwise. And who would not rejoice in an enthusiastic audience, when the boy deserved it?

"He who accosts the world should be neither too old nor to young, but fresh and blooming, not only here and there, but along the whole stem. With Henri one can shut his eyes in comfort. His playing has the fragrance and the color of a perfect flower. His execution is perfect, altogether masterly.

"When we speak of Vieuxtemps we are apt to think of Paganini. \* \* \* When I was about to hear Paganini for the first time, I thought to myself that he would begin with a tone such as had never been heard before. Then he started, and it was so thin, so small! But as he lightly threw his scarcely visible magnet chains into the playing, his tone vibrated hither and thither. At times the rings were more wonderful, more contracted, and the audience drew nearer together. Now he wove them into one another



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more closely, until they gradually blended into a single wonderful whole tone. Other magicians have other formulas. With Vieuxtemps it is not only the single beauties which impress us, nor is it that gradual contraction, as with Paganini, nor the expansion of the measure, as with other artists. Here from the first to the last tone we stand unexpectedly in a magic circle which is drawn around us without our being able to trace the beginning nor the end.

"Wander along, dear child, and if you fail to understand, ask me again in the years to come!

"FLORESTAN."

Vieuxtemps, aged fourteen, must indeed have played very wonderfully to make Schumann write in this enthusiastic manner. This was in 1834.

Of Clara Schumann, long before he fell under the charm of her personal presence, he had written most discriminating criticisms: "As I know people who, on hearing Clara Wieck, rejoice in their anticipation of hearing her again, I ask myself, What keeps up such interest in her? Is it the 'Wunderkind,' at whose wonderful span of tenths the people shake their heads, although astounded? Or is it the tremendous difficulties which she flings into the lap of the public like garlands of flowers? Is it perhaps a certain pride taken in her as a native of the town? Or is it that she plays us the most interesting things in the shortest space of time? Do the masses comprehend that art should not depend upon the whims of one or two fanatics who would lead us back upon a time over whose corpse the wheels of time are driving? I know not; I only feel that in her we realize the compelling force of genius, which men still reverence; in short, she has that quality of which so much is said, by those who have it not.

"FLORESTAN."

"Early she drew aside her Isis veil. The child stands forth serene; older men would perhaps be blinded by that glance. "EUSEBIUS." In comparing Anna von Belleville, the pianist, and Clara, Schumann writes:

"They cannot be compared; they are different masters of different schools. Belleville's playing is technically far more beautiful; but Clara's is more passionate. Belleville's tone flatters one, but penetrates only to the ear; that of Clara to the heart. The one is a poet, the other a poem."

Clara to the heart. The one is a poet, the other a poem."
Weber's "Euryanthe," that ill-fated work which doubtless hastened its author's untimely death, called forth most
unqualified eulogy from Schumann, who wrote of it as
follows:

"We have not been so enthusiastic for a long time. The music has received far too little recognition. It is heart's blood, the noblest that he had; and it cost him part of his life—that much is certain. And yet through it he is immortal.

"A chain of gleaming jewels from start to finish—everything masterly and full of esprit. The characteristics of the single dramatis personæ, such as Eglantine and Euryanthe, were splendid, and how well the instruments sound they spoke to us from the innerest denths of feeling."

they spoke to us from the innerest depths of feeling."

Donizetti's "La Favorita," on the other hand, seems to have impressed Schumann rather more unfavorably, for he dismisses consideration of it in seven curt words:

"Heard only two acts. Dolls' theater music!"

Of especial interest, too, were Schumann's aphorisms upon criticism, art, music, life in general, maxims as sententious as those of La Rochefoucauld, which in their meager compass concentrate thoughts of profound meaning. Those embittered critics whose own blighted musical hopes enable them to look with blasé eyes upon all the beautiful, he dismisses with the laconic phrase: "Sour grapes, bad wine!" Of the plastic in art he gracefully comments: "Music is like chess. The queen, melody, has the highest power, but the king, harmony, always gives the check." Of genius he says: "One forgives the diamond its points. It costs a great deal to round it off." Of the music puritans: "That would indeed be a limited art which only could be

heard, and had no speech, no significance for the life of the soul!"

From these few instances it may be seen that Schumann embarked upon a new highway of criticism. For him the music, not the technic, was the highest consideration, and seldom or never gives a notice which consists in technical comment. He probed always to the soul the poetry behind any performance or any work, and cleverly concealed must be the padding, or the lack of understanding, to escape his lynx like eye. And yet withal he was the most liberal, the quickest to see the good, and the readiest to praise it. Moreover, he was not a mere critic, but a He had the making of a feuilletonist; his mind absorbed the interesting instead of the commonplace in every performance and every work. He made note of little details which enlivened all his writing and gave it that vivifying touch so difficult to describe and yet so instantaneously felt. These qualities made his influence as a clear eyed judge felt throughout all Germany; and it was as much to his articles as to his scores that he owed his power against the deadening apathy which Hummel, Thal-berg and their reputable but unretrogressive friends had planted throughout his native land. Liszt, Bülow and planted throughout his native land. Wagner wielded trenchant pens, but for discriminating, broad, fair minded, sympathetic criticism none of them could approach Robert Schumann

The accompanying portrait of the lamented composer, after he became insane, is unique, and is now published for the first time. It has just been discovered and brought out by the Musik, of Berlin, and it is by permission of that journal that I am enabled to present it to the readers of The Musical Courier. In 1855 Laurens, the artist, visited Schumann at the insane asylum at Endernich, on the Rhine, and made this sketch of him. The music and dedications are in Schumann's own handwriting. It was in one of those rare moments of sanity that come to the insane that ne penned there, so far as I know, the last notes and words

he ever wro

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#### RUTH LYNDA DEYO'S ART.

Ruth Lynda Deyo, the young and greatly gifted pianist, will again be heard at concerts and recitals in this country this coming season. Miss Deyo will be especially remem bered by those who recall her sympathetic and rarely skill-ful performances last spring of the works by her teacher, Edward Alexander MacDowell. Some notices of a former concert are appended:

MacDowell's second pisson concerto, which is one of the most effective works of its class, was the means of bringing forward a young American pianist, Miss Deyo, of Albany, who, although only twenty-one years of age, has already won much praise for her playing in the concert halls of London and several German cities. Carreño and MacDowell have taught her, and few have made better use of their opportunities. She has what so few pianists of the time have, color in her playing, and tenderness; her technic is of dazzling brilliancy, and her ability to build an imposing climax truly astounding. There were times when she seemed flustered—naturally enough under the circumstances of a debut—but on the whole she played the concerto as Hans von Bülow wanted good music to be played—correctly, beautifully and interestingly. It is safe to predict a brilliant career for this young American if she can be kept from the over strenuous artistic life. She had a most enthusiastic reception and was compelled to add an extra piece, a "Meditation," by Tachaikowsky, dedicated to Safonoff.—New York Evening Post,

The concerto is an imposing and dazzling piece of virtuoso music, with some remarkably fine themes and much skillful treatment, and with noble and beautiful expression in the first larghetto and in the largo that precedes the final allegro. Miss Deyo played it with sweep and fire. She has great strength and accuracy of finger, and her style is full of dash and nervous energy. The audience was very enthusiastic and unwearied in applause. Miss Deyo was repeatedly recalled, and finally sat down and played again.—New York Times.

Then followed the first appearance of Ruth Lynda Deyo in Mac-Dowell's second piano concerto. This work is dedicated to Mad-ame Carreño, who played it in Berlin last fall. The success of the composition there was pronounced. It is not very familiar here, though it has two or three performances to its credit. Miss Deyo, therefore, had a double task before her. She must needs plead her own cause and that of her master, for MacDowell was her master, and her reading was authoritative and redolent with personal suggestions.

suggestions.

The concerto bristles with cruel difficulties, especially in the rhythms of the scherzo. Miss Deyo conquered her audience completely. Possessed of personal charms, her playing mirrored a straightforward method, complete control of her resources and an intellectual foundation all too rare. At times a bit of youthful boisterousness tended toward noise, but that is easily remedied, and it was all healthy. She played her testimony to MacDowell con amore. Insistent applause elicited an encore—Tschaikowsky's

barcarolle. Exceptional promise is stamped on the work of this young woman.—New York Telegram.

A special word should be spoken, however, for the accond piano concerto of MacDowell, a composition of beautiful melodic content and masterful workmanship. The work, which has won a permanent place in piano literature, was well played by Ruth Lynda Deyo, a pianist of fine musical instincts, poetical sensibility, abundant temperament and complete technic, in the modern sense of the word. The work and the player scored a well deserved success.—

The Musical Course.

The MacDowell concerto was played by Ruth Lynda Deyo so nely that she is never likely to be a stranger in New York again.—

MacDowell's second composition was the piano concerto in D MacDowell's second composition was the piano concerto in D minor, which he used to play himself. It has sentiment and is richly orchestrated. Miss Deyo disclosed a virile touch, rich tone, no little technical skill and some sertiment. She is young and full of promise. The audience displayed much enthusiasm, especially for Miss Deyo, who played a second time.—New York World.

The concert served the purpose of introducing to New York a young pianist of promise, Ruth Lynda Deyo, who has a strong and facile technic and played the MacDowell concerto with abundant spirit and verve.—New York Globe.

The concert, although given to introduce orchestral music by American composers, was almost dominated by a soloist, as often happens in orchestral concerts devoted to the great masters. This soloist was Ruth Lynda Deye. Her brilliant and ringing performance of the MacDowell piano concerto was received with vociferous applause, which was not satisfied until Miss Deyo had played something that was not American at all as an encore piece. It was Miss Deyo's first appearance as a soloist in New York, but it is not likely to be her last.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Ruth Lynda Deyo, a young pianist, made her New York deb the MacDowell concerto, and scored an emphatic success.—No York Herald.

The New Music Society of America gave its first concert in Carnegie Hall on March 10. The Russian Symphony Orchestra, Ruth Deyo and Elise Stevens were the performers. It was the debut of Miss Deyo, a pianist, and she was received with much enthusiasm.—Dramatic Mirror, New York City.

The first "American concert" on Saturday night was a dignific and successful beginning. Ruth Deyo, pianist in MacDowell's con-certo, won many recalls.—New York Evening Sun.

Ruth Lynda Deyo played MacDowell's com d a virile sentiment which won for her a and a virile sentiment w

Miss Deyo is passing her holiday up in Arlington, Vt.

#### HONORS FOR AMERS' BAND.

Lieut. H. G. Amers, who for several years has been the naster of the swagger Northumberland Hussars, stationed in the North of England, has received notice from Sir Joseph Baxter Ellis, the Mayor of Newcastle-on-Tyne, that he and his famous musical organization will be hon-ored with an official "God speed and good luck send off" when they leave the city on September 25 to sail America for a concert tour through the United States under the management of Howard Pew, of New York City.

This Hussar Band, which is making such a success as the musical attraction of the summer at Brighton, England, the engagement held so many years by the late Dan Godfrey and his famous Guards Band, has been praised as the finest concert band ever heard at this celebrated English watering piace

It is anticipated that the whole town of Newcastle will be astir on that day, as the official demonstration will take place at the railroad station and will be participated in personally by the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriff (who is an official of great importance in England) and other corporation officials, who in their notice to Lieutenant Amers term his band the "Pride of Northum-bria," the representative band of the North of England, and a band of which they are proud.

#### Campanari Lionized at Newport.

Campanari was lionized at Newport last month by the musical coterie of that exclusive summer resort. The baritone sang a half dozen times, ending his appearances at the musicale given by Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish. The singer has passed a part of the holiday months at Spring Lake, N. J. He was one of the winners of the golf tournament recently Campanari's concert season will open in October with a series of recitals in Texas. He will remain in the South until November, and then he will come to New York and sing at several orchestral concerts. will begin another tour, to extend to the Pacific Coast, later in the season.

#### Adelaide Norwood as Madam Butterfly.

Adelaide Norwood, the English prima donna, who was formerly a member of the Savage Opera Company, gave up her opportunity to debut at Bayreuth in Wagnerian opera to sing the title role in Puccini's "Madam Butterfly" in the coming first American production of the opera un-der the direction of Henry W. Savage.

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#### MUSIC IN MEXICO.

CITY OF MEXICO. The Marie Lombardi Opera Company left here nearly a fortnight ago for a tour of several important Mexican cities. From Mexico the company will enter the United States at El Paso and proceed to Dallas, Tex., for a brief season at the State Fair. The company will reach Texas about Oc-tober 1. The next point to be visited will be Los Angeles, Cal., and after the season there the company will make a tour of the Pacific Coast as far north as Portland, Ore. Here in the City of Mexico the company had a most successful engagement extending over three months. Such novelties as "Germania," "Chopin" and "Iris" were among the best productions.

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Mrs. Jules Roberts, president of the St. Cecilia Choral Society, of Dallas, Tex., has recently visited this city. The lady is also the musical director of the musical club she represented here. Mrs. Roberts came to Mexico to engage the Lombardi Opera Company for the great State Fair to be held in her city during the second autumn month.

Beryl Hope and S. E. Rork, representing an American musical comedy company, have been here trying to get a guarantee from the manager of the Hidalgo Theater. They asked only \$60,000, Mexican money. This was something new to Mr. Quintanillia, and as nothing definite was decided, we will have to worry along a while longer without musical comedy à la the United States of North America. 唐 唐

The Barilli Opera Company, from Italy, will open the Arbeu Theater September 4 with "Tosca." Rehearsals are now going on daily. According to the announcements we are to hear during the engagement "The Damnation of Faust," Berlioz; "Siberia," Giordano; "Wally," Catalini; "Madam Butterfly," Puccini; "Amico Fritz," Mascagni, and "Leyenda de Ruiel," by Ricardo Castro. The principals of the company are: Sopranos, Ernestina Randaccio, Josefina Picoletti, Alicia Zeppelli, Gisella Ferrari and Pat tini Sirena; mezzo-sopranos, Virginia Guerrerini and Ter esina Ferraris; tenors, Emilio de Marchi, Alfredo Cecchi, Angel Pintuci and Cæsar Spadoni; baritones, Antonio Magini Coletti, Mario Rousell, Pedro Giacomello and Luis Mazzoleni; bassos, Enzo Bozzano, Juan Gravino, Fernando Gianoli, Natal Cervi and Hercules Massini. Victor Min gardi is director.

The advance reports tell great things of the tenor, Emilio de Marchi, the baritone, Antonio Magini Coletti, and Vir-

Tosca of the occasion was Madame Darclee. Signor Coletti is in his prime and is said to possess a voice of golden quality. Signora Guerrerini is a singer of first rank in her She is still a young woman. Delilah is one of her best roles.

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Captain Voyer, the French pianist, is giving concerts in the suburbs with much success. His own arrangement of the Weber concertstücke for piano and orchestra is an inspiring work. He has played recently at Santa Maria and San Angel. T. G. WESTON.

#### Franke Successful in St. Louis.

Nahan Franko is meeting with extraordinary success in St. Louis, where he is directing the orchestra at the Tyrolean Alps establishment. The St. Louis papers vie with one another to do honor to his conducting, and some of their pæans of praise are herewith reproduced:

usician may be made, but never a leader. That truth was aply exemplified when Nahan Franko stepped on the stage at the amply exemplified when Nahan Franko stepped on the stage at the Alpa as the director of the orchestra at the opening concerts yesterday. His apirited leading brought out not only the best efforts of his fifty men, but almost doubled the volume of tone and carrying power of the instruments. Many of the numbers on both programs seemed new because of the masterly shading and virility of shading given to them. While the musician in Franko was always in harmony with the intentions of the composer, he amplified the latter by his artistic and convincing interpretation. Franko is a master of rhythm and precision. His shading is delicate, yet virile, as it must be, in order not to be lost in space. While his musiciantly training and spirit will not countenance the syrations of a Creators. must be, in order not to be lost in space. While his musicianly training and spirit will not countenance the gyrations of a Creatore, for example, it enters into the blandishments of a Strauss waltz enough to make him embrace his violin and play the harmony in front of his first fiddlers and with his face to the audience, first on one side, then on the other. His own enjoyment of the task before him communicates itself to his musicians and spreads to his listeners. The personality of Franko inspires and delights and makes the sim lest tune a gem.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

However, Nahan Franko had scarcely taken his place on the However, Nahan Franko had scarcely taken his place on the leader's stand when the listless Alps audience began to sit up, and before the last cherd of Komzak's "Kaiser March" had died away the long suffering Alps goers were fully aroused, and became thoroughly aware that the Alps orchestra had at least a leader. Herr Franko has the authority born of native talent, reinforced by invincible knowledge. The orchestra is to him an instrument to be manipulated at will by his baton. His touch is sure and firm, and provided the selection of the sure and the sure selection. consistely artistic. He is a master of dramatic expression, sses to a marked degree that invaluable quality of clarifying mosition by setting forth melodies and contra melodies, with

ginia Guerrerini, one of the mezzos. Marchi was chosen by Puccini to sing the part of Cavardossi at the first presentation of "Tosca" at the Theater Constanzia, in Rome. The program making, too, Franko's superiority is evident.—St. Louis

Mirror.

Directing without score the "Tannhäuser" overture, a "Faust" fantasie, excerpts from "Lohengrin," a Bach choral and many minor compositions, Nahau Franko made the liveliest music that has been heard at the Alps in many a day. As a musical director Franko is in a class by himself. He directs a Strauss waltz like Strauss, but, unlike the latter, who "faked" the violin accompaniment, Franko plays the harmony on his own fiddle on strings that vibrate under his touch till they sound as if three instruments were at work. He is graceful in his directing. His baton goes high up into the air. The left hand has as much to do with his leading as the right. Every nerve in his body seems strained to the highest pitch, and hands, fingers, eyes and words draw out the music from the instruments of his men. One of the interesting occasions of the evening was the playing of two Hungarian dances occasions of the evening was the playing of two Hungarian dances by Brahms. Mr. Franko had not the time to rehearse these difficult selections with his musicians. He only admonished them "not to lose him." And they didn't.—St. Louis Republic.

When Nahan Franko leads the orchestra out at the Alps, as he's doing nightly now, he reminds you of a younger Svengali. This is because he's so swarthy, so impetuously in earnest, so impassioned and masterful in his control of his players. You see him throw out a commanding hand, you hear a few quick, compelling words—and it wouldn't surprise you in the least if they were those of the hypnotic Svengali: "Play! It iss my vill!"

Dark of countenance as the strange musician of Du Maurier's story, with an upstanding mop of raven hair just temple tinged with gray, fiery cyes, a big and sensitive mouth under black moustaches, tall, broad shouldered and lean as an athlete, this man, Franko, certainly dominates his environment. You're a little bit fearful, indeed, that his dominance is too hard for so gentle an art—but this fear vanishes when Franko himself takes his own fiddle, tucks it under his chin and begins playing. For then you remember the Franko whom you heard as the first violin of the Metropolitan Opera House Orchestra, when Maurice Grau was head of that superb organization, the Franko who has won distinction as first violin and concertmastee under the greatest conductors this country has exer seen—and you know that the Alps Crehestra is safe to attain eminently good results under his baton.

—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

With Nahan Franko at the Alps, that high class resort is sand and one dilettanti and the music lovers in general gather Franko has given the strongest kind of an impe every night. Franko has given the strongest kind of an impetus the Alps Orchestra and to all things musical in St. Louis. He is leader born, not made. His own great training has made him a ter of the violin and other instruments long ago, and his posit as concertmaster with the most important musical organizations this country has given him the most intimate knowledge of alm the entire musical literature of the world.—St. Louis Mieror,

Cilecci's new opera, "Gloria," will be done at the Scala, in Milan, next September.



#### ABOUT TEACHERS AND ARTISTS.

Alice Wentworth MacGregor, Massachusetts, Alice Wentworth MacGregor, Massachusetts, is a product of the Marchesi school in Paris. She has had in addition all the artistic privileges afforded by that city. Her repertory includes "The Magic Flute," "Don Juan," "Figaro," "Trovatore," "Traviata," "Sonnambula," "Rigoletto," "Barber of Seville," "Lucia," "Le Cid," "Les "Pecheurs de Perles," "Le Bal Masque," "Don Pasquale," "Joan of Arc," "Lakmé," "Carmen" and "Faust." Several of these have been sung under direction or instruction of the composers. In America Mrs. MacGregor has filled important engagements in concert with societies, choral unions, etc., including the Kneisel Quartet, Boston Symphony and Philharmonic orchestras, Cecilia Society, under including the Kneisel Quartet, Boston Symdirection of B. J. Lang, who heartily endorses the singer; Bernhard Listeman Club, etc., and in salons and churches. Her command of languages gives the musician especial adaptability for song recitals in schools, colleges, seminaries, etc

Mrs. MacGregor is open to engagements for concerts, school or salon singing, church choir work, or to test on probation position in opera. In order to get into a center whence she could overlook the career outlook, Mrs. Mac-Gregor would accept engagement in school or college in any large city. Address 66 Lyndhurst street, Dorchester, Mass., or care of New York Musical Courier.

Louise Finkel, teacher of vocal culture, has her studio in 1748 Broadway, New York City, corner of Fifty-sixth street. Here she last winter gave eight recitals. Over seventy composers were comprised in the program. attention and interest were indicated by large gatherings and much applause.

Some of those heard were: Helen Wilmar, contralto, whose recital in Carnegie Hall last year was noted by the city press; she is having success upon the stage with the "English Daisy" company and others. Hermine Eschens, lyric soprano (to high F), is heard with German and other societies; Myra Matthews, contralto, has been engaged in church choir work in Orange, N. J.; Marguerite Dubois, ut twelve years old, highly gifted, is now in Europe her family; Hannah Keene, with the Metropolitan Opera Company, on tour with the company last season sang in Flower Maiden and other parts; Belle Newport, contralto, sang with Frank Damrosch, and is studying for opera; L. Presby Throop, well known and much admired, is singing in a Brooklyn church; Mrs. Charles Henry is a much, for Lottie is one of the most attractive of girls. She

Messrs. William Wray, Weed and James are business studying for culture. There is also a goodly list of society ladies, all interested in such work. Mrs. Finkle has original, interesting views as to what to do and not to do in vocal teaching. She will be heard from here again. **\*\*** 

Helen Franklyn Kellar is having marked success as teacher of music in Massachusetts. She is a great admirer of Georg Henschel, of whom she was a favorite pupil. A student always perceptive, honorable and cultivated, Miss Kellar deserves success. She is a delightful conversationalist, and has a lyric sonrano voice of much "drawing" Her summer address is 873 Maine street, Worcester; Mass.

Bessie Handley, a gifted vocalist of Baltimore, Md., has been engaged by the Church of the Redeemer (Episcopal), on Charles street, that city. The music of this church is of a superior order and appreciated by a large attendance. Miss Handley is leading member of the opera society directed by David Melamet, of Baltimore. She has great beauty and strong dramatic abilities and has attracted much public attention by her skillful portrayal of many

Nuola would substitute in a leading New York church this winter. Business of her operetta prevents regular engagements. Address 68 West Forty-sixth street. 南 南

Ovid Musin and his family are firm friends of Mrs. Babcock, the enterprising Carnegie Hall music manager. Musins are at Brussels this year, not at Liège, as here-

**(2)** 

Anna Bulkley Hills, the popular New York contralto, is now deeply interested in the success of her gifted niece, Ethel Crane. She is indeed interested in all music and musicians, that being her life, and she being gifted with a large and generous heart. She is now in New York.

Lottie Morse, of New Britain, Conn., has advanced rapidly in her profession as violinist. Not only has she acquired much herself since last year, but she has won a large and enthusiastic class of pupils, who are devoted to her and to their study. She describes her beautiful new violin as to their study. one of the best lovers she has ever known. This is saying

promising soprano of attractive quality and manner; and is at present with her family at Short Beach, Granite Bay,

J. Warren Andrews, from his summer home at "Camp Minneapolis," West Gloucester, Mass., writes of two of his organ pupils who have assumed new positions. De Witt C. Garretson, of Perth Amboy, N. J., goes to a promin-Episcopal church in Parkersburg, W. Va., and Mabel Jenkins leaves her position in South Orange, N. J., for the Union Congregational Church at Jacksonville, Fla. Mr. Andrews' qualified organ pupils always obtain positions He is to open a new organ in the Franklin M. E. Church, Brockton, Mass., just before returning to New York. **\*\*** 

Paul de Longpre, who has an international reputation as painter of flower pieces, removed from his home on West End avenue, New York, to Hollywood, Cal., a suburb of Los Angeles. Here he created a home in the Moorish Mission style, embowered in flowers, in one of the show of Southern California, and here he has recently made his debut as a composer, poet and speechmaker on occasion. In a letter he writes: "Music fills a large part of my life here, and I am devoting much attention to com-posing." Of several compositions sent, "The Tic-Tac of the Mill," his op. 1, is a very pleasing little piece, while some patriotic marches, with choral obligato, the verses written by this gifted French-American, are full of martial ardor and highly patriotic sentiment. All his pieces have been played in Los Angeles by Sousa's, Arend's, Chiafarelli's and Donatelli's bands.

A concert at the Kalisch Theater, August 17, had some artistic features, among them Boris Steinberg in the "Toreador Song" and other baritone numbers. He has a noble voice and delivery. Mr. Pirishnikoff played legitimate violin pieces on his improved concertina, such as Hauser's "Hungarian Rhapsodie," Moszkowski's "Serenade" and a scherzo by Rehfeld, making really beautiful music. Madame Rombro-Kranz sang coloratura music, and Max Dolin played violin pieces well, while Charles A. Kaiser, the tenor, sang a "Faust" aria and songs with very great success. F. W. Riesberg was at the piano,

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#### CÉSAR THOMSON, A COLOSSUS AMONG THE VIOLINISTS.

The announcement by Loudon G. Charlton that Cesar Thomson will make a tournée through the United States under his management next season, has created widespread interest. Since the great Belgian violinist visited this country, twelve years ago, the votaries of "the king of musical instruments" have multiplied and the standard of violin playing has risen. Since then nearly every European celebrity has visited these shores. We have been privileged to hear the most famous exponents of every school, to compare their various styles and to measure their powers.

Among the comparatively few pre-eminent violinists ot the day Thomson has been for years a colossal figure. At the present moment he occupies a higher artistic eminence than he ever before held. It is reasonable to expect that on his forthcoming tour he will disclose the fulness of his powers and reveal the plentitude of his ripened genius. A distinct representative of the Belgian school, Thomson shows an eclecticism embracing the best that all the schools can furnish. Scholarly, virile, reposeful, his taste is so classical and chastened as to be austere. A stupendous technic, a highly finished style, an impeccable technic, an ability to give an infinite variety of shadings and to produce a singularly powerful and pure tone, a clear mu vision and a profound understanding of the contents of the composition he interprets—these are the dominant characteristics of this unique violin master.

César Thomson was born March 18, 1857, in Liège, Belgium, a city which has cradled many a violinist genius. His father, a musician of high local repute, taught him the elements of violin playing and laid a solid foundation upon which subsequently was reared an artistic superstructure. After studying with his father for several years, young Thomson was placed under the care of the celebrated Jacques Dupuis, who was esteemed as a rigid disciplinarian a most painstaking and thorough instructor. pupil had passed through the curriculum of the Liège Conservatorium before he was twelve years old and had given unmistakable evidence of remarkable musical gifts. Thomson was sent from Liège to Brussels when thirteen, and matriculated in the celebrated Conservatorium which was presided over by Hubert Leonard. Spohr, David and Leonard will go down in history as the three greatest violin teachers of the nineteenth century. At this time Leonard was as the height of his fame and in his class were more than a dozen violinists who subsequently gained distinction. Among these students none was comparable to Thomson, whose phenomenal technic astounded professors and pupils. Not only did he shine as a soloist, but made even a deeper impression by his scholarly playing in ensemble. Leonard is on record as follows:

"During my incumbency in the Brussels Conservatorium and, indeed, during my long career as a teacher, it has been my good fortune to teach many a young man of pronounced talents. - I have seen some develop amazing powers of technic and musicianship which promised to place them in the front ranks, and this has been a source of gratification. I believe that I am warranted in declaring that I now have with me a young Belgian, who will be proclaimed the greatest virtuoso since Paganini. His name César Thor

This roseate prophecy was destined soon to be fulfilled. for when Thomson appeared in Paris, Berlin, Vienna, London and other musical capitals, performing Paganini's positions so brilliantly as to literally "sweep audiences off their feet," he was hailed as "the young Paganini," "the most wonderful violinist of the century," and so forth. Unimpressionable critics, who had never been known to betray emotion, rose to their feet and applauded vehemently. And in reviewing these concerts and describing the young Belgian's playing there was an unheard of cordance of opinions. The reviewers vied with one another in extolling the violinist's powers.

Throughout Europe the fame of Thomson spread. Having toured through England, Spain, Portugal, Ituly, France, Holland, Germany with unvarying success, he invaded Russia and Turkey and achieved a succession of triumphs. He so fascinated the Sultan, Abdul Hamid, that this music loving Oriental offered him an honorable and permanent post at his court. But César Thomson felt constrained to reject this flattering proposal; he had in view something better than passing his time as the entertainer of the Commander of the Faithful.

In 1879 Thomson became the leader of the famous Bilse Orchestra and held this position until 1882, when he was created by royal decree head of the violin department of the Liège Conservatorium. In 1891 he was the lion of the Gewandhaus at Leipsie. Two years later he visited the United States for the first time. His meteoric career here is well remembered. He made his debut in Carnegie Hall the presence of a vast assemblage and his dazzling feats of virtuosity created a furore.

Upon his return to Europe Thomson was chosen the torium, and still holds this post. Until two years ago Thomson did little concertizing. He was enticed from his scholastic labors by a South American impresario, who induced him to make a tour through several parts of that country. His success among the passionate music lovers of the South rarely has been equalled in the annals of violin playing. His triumphal tour possessed the same sensationalism which is said to have characterized Paganini's first tour through France. When Thomson revisits the United States next winter-history will repeat itself.

#### Myrtle Elvyn in the German Previnces.

The German provincial cities are as critical of music polish and fine feeling as many great capitals, and they pass caustic sentence upon that species of mediocrity which to find fame among little surroundings. case of Myrtle Elvyn, however, the judgment of the German provinces has in all points been most favorable, and demonstrations of her audiences have always been followed up by no less favorable comments, such as the

"Still higher do I rank the performance of Myrtle Elvyn, planist of the evening. Miss Elvyn posse sses a superb. really masterly technic, which she places at the service of her artistic conceptions. Out of the simple, thoughtful dy of the Chopin nocturne, op. 37, No. 2, spoke the soul of inner experience, the marked and puissant accents of the Chopin A flat polonaise called forth a brilliant cavalcade in the fancy of the hearer, and the swiftly interplaying "Stimmungsbilder" of the twelfth Liszt rhapsodie acted medium for a true reflection of the extremes in somber melancholy and in the effervescent joy of living found in subservient character of the Hungarian people. a rare joy for the critic to meet such a pianist and heartily to wish her luck at her entrance upon public life."-Ernst Flügel, in the Schlesische Zeitung, Breslau, November i8, 1905.

The pianist, Myrtle Elvyn, achieved a great success. The public passed correct judgment upon her; she is a big talent. Her technic is phenomenal. Readers must not take fright at this strong epither, for it does not assert too We saw this pianist conquer the most hair raising difficulties with the same facile elegance as we are to meet with in her master, Leopold Godowsky. It was an extreme pleasure to listen to the young and sympathetic

artist."—Breslauer General-Anzeiger, November 19, 1905.
"Again might the old adage truly be applied to Myrtle Elvyn: She came, she played, she conquered."-Altmärkische Zeitung, Osterburg, March 24, 1906.

#### Madame Devine in Switzerland.

Lena Doria Devine is spending the month of August accessor of Ysaye as the head of the Brussels Conserva- traveling in Switzerland, including the ascent-a part way -of the Jungfrau. At the present time, Madame Devine is at St. Moritz, in the Engadine.

> Royal Fish, the tenor, has sent to THE MUSICAL COURIER program of a Sunday evening concert at Edgewood Inn, Conn., where he appeared as soloist, singing the "Allerseelen," "Onaway, Awake," and "Hunting Morning," by Weld, with pleasing success. From there he went to Randolph, near Chautauqua, N. Y., where fishing for bass in the Connewango occupied his special attention.

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FRITZ KREISLER will make an extensive tour of America during the season of 1907-08.

J. PIERPONT MORGAN has contributed a large sum of money toward a fund with which to build a "Palais Philharmonique" in Paris, to contain three concert halls seating, respectively, 5,200, 2,200 and 700 persons. Sometimes generosity, like charlty, should begin at home, and this is a case in point. A "Palais Philharmonique" by any other name would be just as welcome in

A New York critic of music is about to bring out a book called "The Art of the Singer." It is a difficult art in New York, consisting chiefly, aside from its musical aspects, in trying to get favorable notices from the critics without paying for annotated programs, without giving them dinners, and without heaping presents on the Mrs. Critics. It is an art in which few succeed. The author of the book is a grate voice specialist; that is, he has a special kind of voice about which somebody else could write a book. When the critic in question lectures in public his own nasal tone production and country twang furnish convincing illustration of the value of his researches into the subject of the voice, its modulation, use, and practical application for public purposes.

THE only reason why the New York papers have not yet begun to raise virtuous outcry against the text of the Wilde-Strauss "Salome" is because the opera season in New York does not open until November, and therefore would not benefit by any summer spasms of journalistic conscience. Wait and see how wicked "Salome" will become just after the scenery is bought and the date of production set. "Parsifal" and "Mrs. Warren's Profession" furnished striking examples of how the public good is worked in New York-or to be more grammatical, how the public is worked good.

THE directors of the Metropolitan Opera House, with that fine ethical sense which distinguished their handling of the "Parsifal" matter two seasons ago, now announce their intention of trying to restrain Mr. Hammerstein from producing Puccini's operas at the new Manhattan Opera. They claim a prior contract with the publishers of the works in question, whereby the Metropolitan is given sole rights. Mr. Hammerstein, who is the last man in the world to get frightened at anything except the complete destruction of this globe, refers to a verbal agreement made with Puccini's representative here, and goes on calmly with his preparations for "Bohème" and "Tosca." The whole squabble is causing tremendous excitement, chiefly in the fountain pen of the Metropolitan's press agent. The directors of the last named institution are also credited with having made an attempt to restrain Henry W. Savage from giving his English production of "Mme. Butterfly." What happened to the aforesaid directors is said to have been not unlike what happened to the mule who didn't know that the gun was loaded. The experience is technically known as a "jolt." time for monopolistic methods is rather unpropitious just now, in opera as well as in everything else. The public seems inclined to side with the oppressed; that is, with itself.

ALGERNON St. JOHN-BRENON, the vocabularious critic of the New York Morning Telegraph, takes THE MUSICAL Cou-RIER'S London correspondent to task for saying that the popularity of Puccini's operas in London might eventually release that city from the "thraldom" of Wagner. "For the London critic to imagine," comments Mr. St. John-Brenon, "that because 'Mme. Butterfly' is performed nine times in a season and 'Die Meistersinger' only three, the Wagnerian 'thraldom' is coming to an end, is, as criticism, a piece of Clapham Commonism fully worthy of the stupidest music critic that ever lived, Joseph Bennett, of the London Daily Telegraph." Mr. St. John-Brenon has a right to disagree with THE MUSICAL COURIER'S London correspondent, but we have the same right to disagree with Mr. St. John-Brenon. There are several music critics on the New York dailies who are much more stupid than Mr. Bennett ever was. After all, he retired not long ago from the critical field. and that in itself denotes uncommon good sense. There is in these lines no intention to imply that Mr. St. John-Brenon belongs to the category of critics aforementioned. His writings have the saving salt of humor, and do not in any way resemble the lucubrations of his brethren on some of the morning dailies. The latter circumstance in itself makes Mr. St. John-Brenon's presence welcome in a field that is largely arid and unfruitful.

# Mr. Stevenson's Views and Their Lessons.

The remarkable contribution of Irenæus Prime-Stevenson to the New York Independent, which was reviewed in this paper of August 1st, constitutes not only a critical digest of New York musical conditions, but is an indictment that should be presented by the grand jury of intelligence to the public in order to aid in bringing about the reforms actually necessary. Judged by any one who comes to Europe to study musical conditions on the Continent, not only in the abstract but for the purpose of comparison and contrast-for it is chiefly the latter that presents itself-Mr. Stevenson's Ciceronic letter carries the truth throughout and discloses the lamentable fact so frequently placed before the public through this paper, that we can expect very little from our writers on the New York daily press. His allusion to the critic who has been discussing vocal methods in his columns in a New York daily must indeed have results when we all in New York know that the very critic also lectures, and, like a brother critic also a lecturer, demonstrates that in elocution he is unable to place a tone and can hardly be heard beyond the sixth row of any auditorium, and such a person has the effrontery to write essays on the vocal art, and the impudence to attempt to tell vocal instructors who are deeply versed in their professional studies how to give lessons. He himself is not a singer and cannot declaim properly a stanza from Wordsworth or Poe or Joaquin Miller. The brother critic who also lectures is happily endowed with an effeminate voice, and no one expects any elocution in that case after the first half dozen syllables have been uttered. And both discuss vocal art from their capacity to express it!

And it is against such conditions, these being mere samples of many, that Mr. Stevenson's literary accomplishments are directed, and to expose such a state of affairs that he takes the time and effort. New York musical people should see to it that every word he has written be engraved upon the minds of the people.

It is due mainly to the ignorance of the daily paper critics-the three critics on three of the morning dailies-that New York has become so indifferent to what is really good in music and musical in the good. The business relations of those three critics to many musical institutions and performances have discredited the trio thoroughly, through the illuminations on the subject as shown in these columns, and there is nothing more to do about this than to repeat it, so that finally the owners of the papers for which those critics write will learn how their columns are transformed from the vital journalistic issue into an entirely different mission.

Mr. Stevenson's statement on the relatively low condition of the art itself in New York must become apparent to any one who has the observer's instinct. As to the Philharmonic, I have always contended that an orchestral body that selects its own conductor cannot be expected to be a proper subject part of the aggregation, but its existence is a logical how all of them are imbued with æsthetics, and espe-for discipline, and without discipline no musical sat-result of prior conditions through which it grew, cially the Divine Art. This real estate feature is

isfaction can be secured from orchestral playing. New York actually does not know what ensemble orchestral rehearsal means, so little is this-manifestly the most important feature of performingcultivated in our city. There are a few rehearsals, limited, held before each public rehearsal, and that ends it, and as to the other orchestras-well, when an artist is to appear with an orchestra he gets one rehearsal-sometimes not even one rehearsal.

How can we call New York a musical town when its chief events are based on such a misconception of the very vital necessaries in the art-the prime laws disregarded? Many members of the Philharmonic regret this, and they also know that if additional rehearsals were imposed upon the hired players-yes, there are men regularly hired by the Philharmonic to play in some or most of their concerts-if these had to be paid for extra rehearsals the dividends of the Philharmonic members might be reduced to such an extent that the whole scheme might become endangered.

ing to examine some of the instruments used at our orchestral concerts. There are many twenty dollar violins among them. Any wonder that Mr. Stevenson and others are vainly listening for tone quality?

#### The Union.

There is absolutely no reason in following the dictation of some of the big daily papers in abusing the Musical Union. It is known to every orchestral musician that it is due entirely to the existence of the Union that the musicians are enabled to make a living commensurate with the profession or compared to other professions. The Union has, at least, saved the musicians from falling entirely from their estate, and had it not been for this very Union the theaters would now be paying \$15 a week for six performances in the evening and two matinees. Judged from the viewpoint of art, the Union has no rights at all, but, as Mr. Stevenson shows and as this paper has ofttimes proved, it is not a question of art in New York. This art question is entirely relegated, and in its place we see music, in its operatic form, as a matter of business and fashion; in its absolute division a matter of business, of politics, of diplomacy, of piano manufacturing advertising and of all kinds of intrigues for personal advan-

All this, together with the growth of corporate power, finally forced a Musical Union, not only upon us but upon the musician himself. The Musical Union is merely an outgrowth of the prevailing social state in America, and the combination of men What I desire to call attention to is the fact that to create a Union was altogether a defensive act. It is a section of a vast movement of society in America which is the subject of study among the very greatest minds because it promises an upheaval, not necessarily violent in its action, of our whole social fabric. The Musical Union is a mere fractional

was fostered and now flourishes. We must look at it entirely as a phenomenon outside of music or the professional playing of music, for it is a combination, a solidarity of men engaged in daily labor whose future prosperity was endangered by the growth of wealthy combinations which could have and were prepared to cut down the daily rate of wages. We compelled our musician to become a member of a labor organization in order to maintain himself. He is now protecting his scale.

Naturally, as in all such movements, many evils have gradually crept into the Union system, and they may subsequently undermine it; the fact of the present prosperity of the Musical Union cannot be ignored, nor can its power be tortured into antagonism, especially by those who represent corporate interests in their own person, without danger to themselves, and here let me emphasize something which I feel will meet Mr. Stevenson's views, too

We know that the musical conditions in New Mr. Stevenson, by the way, might find it interest- York, in five-sixths of the cases, are really rotten, to use this abused term. Then, this being so, why not permit the Musical Union to become the Deus ex machina which could be made to conduct the new musical movement that would flow from the disintegration of the present through the Draconic theories of the Union itself? Why pick out the Union? The Union is far better as a moral institution than the combination of the critics. The moment the critic allies himself with the public performer whose performances he is expected neutrally to treat in his paper he becomes wholly immoral. Philip Hale, who has been advocating the dissolution of these alliances, is absolutely correct in his premises and his conclusions. The Musical Union represents no such unmoral condition. It is, or has been, until recently, defensive, and that is its life. As soon as it goes into offensive warfare against music itself we will see the most interesting state of affairs yet known in this unmusical town. But as a Union it is a necessity in view of the condition of corporate influence. Besides, it exists as a fact, and there it is. It must be recognized, and is, whenever it moves its Fafner like body.

#### The Opera Union.

The Opera is also a Union. There are many conflicting and antagonizing elements in that Union, which is a power not to be despised, as it exercises considerable control over a multitude of affairs. Involved in its future is the prospective enhanced value of the Metropolitan Opera House Building, in which real estate speculation, having collateral and side issues bearing upon other real estate in that vicinity and the real estate boom that would strike the part of the city where the succeeding and new opera house would be built, many persons from the Wall Street section of New York are interested. We all know what tender souls daily eke out other people's livings in that downtrodden part of Gotham, and

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least known to less people than anything else connected with the opera Union, but it is known.

While the Musical Union with candor claims no artistic aims or ambitions, but is a labor organization affiliated with and dependent upon the great American Federation of Labor, the Opera Union hypocritically claims that it has artistic aims, when, as a fact, art is not even considered, except as a vehicle with which to maintain the appearance of respectability. No one ever seriously dreams of musical art in the Metropolitan; no one has the time for it. The scheme is purely on a dividend hunting basis, just as any other corporation, and first and foremost comes the unavoidable question of money. There are only two artistic questions ever asked at the Metropolitan, and the one is, "Will she draw?"; the other, "Will he draw?" These are the Alpha and Omega of art at that Temple, and they are the questions because its existence depends entirely on the balance between receipts and expenditures, and when the latter exceed the former that Musical Union scheme is also endangered.

The personal factor enters into it as little as it does with the other Musical Union. It is all a question strictly of business, because circumstances com-

Mr. Stevenson's article illustrates the effect of this through its comparative proofs; I show the cause here and confirm Mr. Stevenson. Every year the Metropolitan sends its manager all through the Continent to look up new additions, but as he is not a musician, never studied music and had no idea that he would ever be called upon to operate in a function requiring a judicious musical sense, he had no reason for thinking about it, and hence he can make no selections on his own judgment. But for the difference of sex he could not distinguish a baritone from a contralto tone quality. He can distinguish by looking, for the baritone wears trousers and the contralto (in the majority of cases) does not, and that gives the manager his cue; but as to the subtle distinctions of the human voice he is absolutely not capable of selection, and it is of no consequence anyway. His remarks on music are the source of constant hilarity among the principals of the orchestra at the Metropolitan, but he does not even appreciate the satire, because he cannot understand the cause of the hilarity. On various occasions during rehearsals he actually compelled the conductor to stop on the score of too much noise, when the marks were fff, and he did not know to what the great sound volume was intended to apply. He can hardly supply from memory the names of the roles of any 10 operas. But there is no reason why he should know any of the basic laws of music or opera, for a man of professional knowledge of that kind is not wanted and could not be used at the Metropolitan, and no one would understand him. As he of Avon said:

"Behold, the heavens do ope

The gods look down, and this unnatural scene They laugh at."

But they do not. They and no one else pays the slightest attention to all these anomalies, because, pertaining, as they do, to art, nobody cares, because no one has time, and it would mean mental, moral, physical and financial bankruptcy to any who would or who did. It is all a question of dollars and cents with the Metropolitan Opera Union, because if it were an art question there could be no opera. No one but fashion or a government can keep operaafloat. The public at large cannot afford to maintain it, and hence it will, in time, cease. The moment another phase of pleasure-attracts New York fashionable circles, opera in New York must die. The history of opera in our city is a gruesome tale of disaster, disappointment, bankruptcy, poverty and unheralded death. Look at the wrecks of the past fifty years of New York grand opera; and there is another wreck, a mental one, in preparation, which, unless friendly advice intervenes to prevent it, will

manifest itself very soon with such marked evidence do their general press work, arrange their programs that no one will doubt.

#### The Critic Union.

Here in France there is an Association of Musical and Dramatic Critics. The present President is M. Camille Le Senne, the critic of the Siècle; this is a fraternal organization merely. But there is also a Protective society of Paris critics, the President being G. Fabius de Champville, and this society has a permanent home, a pension fund, and aid fund for indigent or sick members, and a retreat or home or provisions for a home in case of any individual distress. Professional critics of all kinds are members, and there are, besides the President, such officers as vice presidents, secretary general, assistant secretary, treasurer, archivist, and members of the Council. There is a telephone connection in case of necessity for immediate relief, and other means of intercommunication outside of the usual meetings.

Reflect for a moment on the standing, professionally and personally, of such Paris critics as the following, beginning with the venerable Arthur Pougin, of the Evénement, then Gabriel Fauré himself with his contributions to the Figaro, Alfred Bruneau, Xavier Leroux, Pierre Lalo, Andre Sardou, August Boisard, M. Fourcaud, Georges Vanor, Albert Montel and a couple of dozen more.

Why is it that the respect of the American musical and literary world for New York City daily criticism has became a thing of the past, whereas the critics of the old and new world generally are pointed to as men whose words carry weight? Simply because three or four of our leading daily paper music critics have not only illustrated their incompetency, but they have also laid bare to the musical world their pecuniary interests in the very musical artists and events which they were supposed to have been criticising independently;

Music critics who are engaged by piano manufacturers to write catalogues and brochures-that being the indirect manner of accepting money for writing favorable notices of the pianists who play the pianos of said manufacturers;

Critics who are on such intimate personal relations with musical artists that they are employed to visiting and resident American musical people.

and annotate them;

Critics who make of these foreign visiting artists their special domestic friends, and whose apartments are filled with gifts from these artists, and whose persons and their wives' persons are adorned with jewelry from these artists;

Critics whose pernicious activity is felt in the engagements of operatic artists and whose influence is exacted in favor of the opera company as a return for the favor extended in engaging an artist recommended by the critic;

Critics plying their trade among musical institutions either as regular members of the staff-whereapon they recommend the institution they are associated with as against any other-or receiving commissions on pupils' fees;

Critics occupied as official annotators of musical institutions whose performances they are constantly criticising-and naturally favorably, for otherwise they could not continue as official annotators;

Critics pulling wires in all directions on a commission basis or for other direct or indirect benefits; Critics "editing" publications for music publishers, so that the publications are, in return, handsomely noticed in the newspapers for which these critics write, etc., etc.

Very naturally the owners or editors of the daily papers who are employing these critics have no conception of the "graft" thus coming to them through these manifest advantages; all of which exist merely because, in return for favors, the critics use their space in these daily papers to compensate their own

Mr. Stevenson, in referring to these evils in his way, is reflecting the general opinion of musical Europe and also of America, let me tell him, for there is manifest a powerful revulsion against this method of operating in the critical function. I trace it right here to Paris, where certain music teachers (chiefly vocal) are in such close touch with New York daily paper critics that it is understood that every inquirer on the subject is to be sent to the vocal studio with which the arrangement is in force, and it has called for the deepest resentment among

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TSCHAIROWSKY'S PRAISE OF PETSCHNIKOFF.

Now, then, as against the Musical Union and the the poorly paid, underpaid, last ditch career on earth Opera Union, there is but little chance for the Critics' Union, because this Union is not organized, besides being too limited in its personal strength or numbers, and yet at times it moves, particularly against the Musical Union, through the attitude of those daily papers which are opposed to any labor organization. Being owned, nearly all of them, by Trusts, these daily papers are opposed to labor organizations, failing to see that they have no logical basis for an argument from the fact that they are also Unions. The daily paper critics of the Critics' Union, however, use this lever to antagonize the Musical Union, particularly as they are suspected by the latter of even more interest in current musical events than I have shown up in my arraignment.

It is for this reason that these critics are opposing the Chorus Union, which is now endeavoring to utilize the Alien Contract Labor Law to prevent the influx of foreign choruses, and which is seeking to enlist the influence of the American Federation of Labor in its behalf. Why there should be no Chorus Union when Unions of all kinds surround us I fail for their own advancement. If the law is a bad law

should not organize for its protection when there is a successful Union of those stage aristocrats known as scene shifters and theater hands. If there is any place that offers less hope here and apparently less hope eternal than the chorus of a grand opera in America, please mention it; a place in such a band of heroes and heroines, willing to work, including rehearsals, for a paltry \$15 a whole week for about 35 weeks in a year, to return during vacation to places as scullery maids and Coney Island waiters! Why should not the chorus create a Union of its men, women and families? Who has a better right and a more inviting cause?

Never mind the Alien Contract Labor Law. We know little of its ethical value, and its passage by Congress was probably due to the final adjustment by various Congresses of the usual sectional divergencies, and no doubt there was money lurking in it somewhere. However, it is the law of the land, and there is no reason or justice in the condemnation of those who are to take advantage of it to appreciate, and it would be rather astonishing if we must suffer, and we must suffer very justly, be-

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the United States have no right whatever to grumble about our own laws, and we may as well remember what that remarkable man, U. S. Grant, said on one occasion: "The way to get rid of an obnoxious law is to enforce it." That is the common sense of it. But to condemn those who invoke our own law to benefit themselves is the reverse; that is, is nonsense.

The music critics are also opposing the Chorus Union because they are not able to touch the poor chorus and are out of sympathy with the institution anyway. They do not see that to support the chorus in its efforts at advancement means an indirect adsee that they constitute the chorus of the daily To appreciate this I must call attention newspaper. to the fact that, for instance, the so called music critic of the World (he was an apprentice in a hat factory) gets the royal chorus salary of \$20 a week and must be prepared to handle all musical matter coming into the office. Let me explain: If a prima donna has an inturned toe nail and the World loses the item, that music critic gets a mark against his credit. If a street piano is overturned by an automobile and the World loses the item published in other papers, that music critic gets a mark against his credit. It implies the whole musical gamut from a description of a new opera and a new occupant of an opera box or a new symphony to an elevator accident in an apartment house next to a building where an opera singer once paid a visit. That is an actual, living and vital truth, and it may seem absurd, but the more absurd the surer it is to fit the method of handling musical matters in the average New York daily paper.

The editors and proprietors of the New York dailies have a false conception of the status of classical music in New York and America through the misrepresentation of affairs by the music critic, but this reacts so sharply upon the latter that he is considered the least valuable functionary on the daily press, and therefore his salary is about on the level of a male chorus salary rate. The critic of the Sun is also the yachting reporter, which gives him, with his music critic salary, an income equivalent to that of second violinist in a New York orchestra-if that much. The music critic of the Times is also a book reviewer, and with the exception of three men in the book reviewing line in New York, of which Hazeltine, of the Sun, and Walsh, of the Herald, are two, most book reviewers on the dailies are hacks. The music critic of the Tribune is assistant cable editor and must do general day or night work in order to sustain himself as a critic. that the daily New York newspaper, with the ex- explanation into the causes of the condition.

cause we-yes, we-made it a law. We people of ception of the Evening Post, does not value music criticism as of any importance from the business manager's viewpoint, and the New York daily paper is a financial proposition and must make money to exist and pay its dividend, with the exception of that remarkable daily directory, the New York Herald, which is an automatic apparatus entirely distinct and even separate from New York journalism. As the daily papers must make money they cannot afford to engage critics of music, knowing that there are not enough people in New York who are sufficiently interested to purchase sufficient quantities of papers (of each title) to make it pay any one paper. Hence the critics are not engaged vancement of their own station, and they do not even as such, but as general reporters or utility men, and if they are not utility men on the papers they get such a low salary that it would be a disgrace to mention it.

> Such then is the character of New York public music criticism and such also is its nature and its relation to society; that is to say, no musicians, no one connected with music in New York has risen sufficiently in the scale of the profession or as an artist, or as a literary character, or as a financial force to enter society, except a few teachers who have entrée into families, and a few parasites who accidentally got into some of the 400 families from the need of having music occasionally as a nerve stimulant. There is no musically artistic social circle as in all the cities of Europe, and if a new Liszt were suddenly to arrive and be invited to play in one of the average salons of New York he would not be understood and would be interrupted by the chatter of the young idiots who are the usual representatives of high society in New York.

Once in a while a Calvé or an Ysaye or a Kubelik or a Joseffy or a Hofmann is invited to play in a New York salon-for money. Of course, that implies at once an engagement for the professional services of a musician. The people present do not listen unless by compulsion and the musician subsequently speaks of them and their ignorance disdainfully and that equalizes the demurrer on each side. Neither the opera singers, the visiting virtuosi, the orchestral musician, the chorus singer, the conductor, the composer nor the music critic stands on any social elevation in this town, least of all the chorus singer, or critic, because the others are, here and there, admitted by payment of a fee to them; that is they are hired, to tell it with unvarnished freedom; the others are not even hired.

#### The Estate.

Such then is the condition as explained so graphically by Mr. Stevenson in his article on the "sham This is what is meant in these explanations, viz.: music town," and which I have amplified by further

Brought down to a focus, it is seen that the Musical Mutual Protective Union is, as its name indicates, a union for defense and is as seen from all viewpoints the one candid, outspoken and fair musical institution working out its destiny without false claim or pretense. It says: "We must protect ourselves in our effort to get the proper wages."

It is therefore a question of money; not art, With the Philharmonic it necessarily must be a question of money, because if its annual series of concerts does not produce a sufficient dividend its members will secede (as has been the case) and seek to make it pay them better in other musical directions, and hence with the Philharmonic profit or money must be the axiom. If it were art there could be no Philharmonic, because the members cannot feed their families with art; it is indigestible.

With the Opera it is altogether a question of money, and any one suggesting a substitution of art for money would be sent, without further ado, to Bloomingdale, and justifiably so. The greatest triumph at any time is the publication of an annual report showing the profit made. The loss reports were never published when they occurred in the days of bankruptcy and general cataclysm all around. No director of the Metropolitan ever published a report on the Art conditions because there is no material to work on. If he were to try such a scheme the Board of Directors would send him to Bloomingdale also. With the Opera it is merely question of money.

With all the musical institutions money is the great desideratum and ever will be unless the profession of music in America rises to an Estate which through its efforts in the direction of Art will force the respect of society, first by supporting its native composers and its native players and singers and then by giving to the foreign artist his due as an artist and not as a foreign sensation. We must get away from the New York and London basis and look to the great West and Southwest and the Northwest and the distant East, the Continent, for our musical inspiration, for in those parts there are sections where the musician does represent an Estate. The musician is "something" in society in Berlin, in Moscow, in Milan, in Munich, in Mannheim, in Paris, in Rome, in Brussels, and in San Francisco and Los Angeles and in Columbus and in Cincinnati and in Boston and in Buenos Ayres and in Cairo and in Tokio, in Leipsic, in Lemberg and Vienna and Buda Pesth and Bucharest-yes, and in Constantinople. These

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communities have constructed their own Estates in their professional musical life by exhibiting the possession of an ideal, as a body-an esprit entirely unknown in New York. Money is the end there, whereas in the cities and communities where the ideal is in effect, money is fulfilling its purposes by being the means. There are thousands of poor musicians in the cities of Europe because, as H. G. Wells, in his new work, "The Future in America," says, Europe itself with its hundreds of millions and its comparative paucity of resource and its dependence upon America to be fed is poor, particularly individually. But so much greater is the credit due to the poor musician that despite this he has an ideal that lifts him into a recognized Estate and as a Troubadour he can enjoy himself until he finds his resting place, whereupon, if he is at all gifted, he attains his place-money or no money.

For years this paper has insisted upon it that the musician in America acclaim himself, and he does so to a great extent, outside of New York. In New York he will, too, but he must, finally, cast off all his associations with those elements that prominent specimens of Stradivarius. Petschnikoff are constantly discrediting him, and furthermore, he must insist with the daily press that its critics should cease to be the press agents exclusively of foreign musicians, who are entitled to their own, but who should not be made the superiors in the daily press of the native musician merely because they are foreigners and can thus secure sufficient revenue to engage the daily paper critics as their representatives.

#### New Music Hall.

This information belongs properly to the regular correspondent of this paper in Paris, but Mr. Delma-Heide relinquishes the item to permit a few reon the right or northern side of the Champs Elysée, there is a large, beautiful acreage of land now covered with grass, flower beds, ferns and fountains and this spot, beyond the Marigny, is to be used for the erection of a large building, an artistic Paris temple of music with the three subdivisions-one an orchestra and chorus hall, one a recital hall and then a chamber music hall, the various seating capacities to be in their relative proportions. At pres-

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ent Paris has, outside the Trocadero-which is acous-was wrecked. tically a failure-no orchestral hall, and Colonne Tribune, may be news to many: and Chevillard concerts take place in theaters; there are no public large recital halls. This large building which is to supply the deficiencies is to be called the Philharmonic, and it is expected to be ready about two and a half years hence. I saw on the subscription list the names of the Countess Grefhulle, a music patron of great liberality here; also for a large sum the subscription of Alfred de Rothschild, and our American art lover, J. Pierpont Morgan, put down 100,000 opposite his name. There will be further particulars, together with illustrations, later on.

#### Petschnikoff.

The Petschnikoffs are at present stopping at their lovely villa in Berchtesgaden, constituting part of a colony, together with the reigning Duchess of Anhalt, and the Princess Ourousoff, who was at one time the protector of Petschnikoff, and through whose generosity he became the owner of one of the and Mrs. Petschnikoff are to play the Mozart double concerto at Salzburg, Mrs. Petschnikoff playing the violin and Petschnikoff the viola.

As a curiosity, but also to show the close association with and the admiration in which he was held by Tschaikowsky, a letter addressed by the immortal Russian to Madame Colonne, of Paris, is reproduced in the pages of this issue of THE MUSICAL COURIER. Mr. and Mrs. Petschnikoff will be in America early in the fall to begin the announced concert tour.

#### The Sirio.

edy that occurred at Cartagena, Spain, when the covers a whole continent in the other instance.

The following, from the London

CARTAGENA, August 9 .- Señor Mariztani, the Spanish tenor, one of the survivors of the wreck, has stated in an interview that he considered the captain and crew responsible for the fearful propor tions of the disaster. Señor Mariztani added that several vessels might have rendered aid to the shipwrecked passengers and crew, but did not do so. The captain of the Sirio declares, and the statenent is confirmed by some of those who assisted in the work of rescue, that the sailors seized him bodily and took him from the ship by main force.

What I desire to call attention to is the following: There is a large human traffic between Italy and South American cities in opera singers, chorus members and orchestral musicians, because Buenos Ayres, Montevideo, San Paolo, Rio, Pernambuco, many interior cities of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay and the large cities of the South American west coast republics have large and small opera houses drawing their personnel from Italy. For instance, Caruso sang in South American cities long before he did in North American cities, and such is also the case with hundreds of Italian opera singers. Their voyage across the Atlantic to us is not the first nor by any means the longest. But we are cut off from South America so effectually that we only get news via Europe, and as we have no banking connections, and, on the other hand, Germany, England, France and Holland control the banks there, we can do no business with South America-as Europe does. This system of Italian opera in South America sustains thousands of families in Italy and is far more important to Italy than The world has read with horror the marine trag- our polyglot opera scheme limited to one city. It Where the Cirque d'Eté formerly stood, Italian steamship Sirio, bound for South America, retary's Root's visit may help to open the continent

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to us, but even if an American singing girl desires to sing in South America she can do so only via Italy-and yet we boast and "blow" and "chin" about our universality of grasp! London, Paris, Milan do business with the whole world. We don't. There is something radically wrong when such a wealthy land as ours creates Musical Unions to defend the pocketbooks of poor musicians, while, at the same time, its concentrated wealth in a few hands amounts to billions and the individual incomes represent thousands of dollars a minute.

No question that there are over 5,000 Italian musicians now playing and singing in South America. And think of the sheet music business done by Italy -poor Italy-with that section of the globe alone; and good music, too. When they speak of America in Italy they always refer to South America; when the United States is spoken of it is either called "America of the North" or the "Dollar Land." mention this particularly to show how much greater the South American interests are to Italian music and musicians than ours.

#### Frau Cosima's Privilege.

The Paris Herald published the following very interesting item from Berlin a few days ago, which, however, may have been a reprint from the New York Herald:

I am informed by a well known personage at Bayreuth that the visit of the Longworths to the festival was coupled with incidents of an extremely disagreeable nature

On their arrival, the Longworths found no rooms reserved, in spite of the American Ambassador at Berlin having engaged apartments at the leading hotel in advance. A lodging was eventually secured in a boarding house through the intervention of the chairman of the festival committee. Frau Cosima Wagner manifested a very indifferent, almost hostile, attitude during the young couple's stay, possi-bly to mark her disapproval of the performance of 'Parsifal" in America in defiance of her express wishes.

The President's daughter was actually socially tabooed, she being ostentatiously omitted from the

list of invitations to the famous soirées held during the week, to which all celebrities were invited.

Neither was it found possible to present the Longworths to the so called "Queen of Bayreuth" at any of the numerous receptions always held on the terrace during the pauses.
All this, coupled with the extreme impertinence

of the visitors, who stared Mrs. Longworth out of countenance until she was compelled to seek refuge in the theater, rendered the trip an unpleasant feature of the European journey.

When THE MUSICAL COURIER, three years ago, protested against the filching of "Parsifal" claimed, among other things, that the object of the production was not based on an æsthetic demand or on artistic longings, but that it was purely a pecuniary question and a matter of business, the sensational acquisition being sufficient to itself to attract the audiences. The subsequently published statements of the large profits made on the venture, the immoral nature of which must in course of time call for natural revenge, were a sufficiently satisfactory reply to the charge made by this paper. It was a good piece of business and Wagner's heirs finally found that they were the heirs also to the revenge of "Das Judenthum in der Musik." Very well. "Parsifal" was appropriated, and the Metropolitan made a large sum of money and claimed as justification the Vanderbilt cry, "The Wagners be damned."

Frau Cosima could do nothing. The law could not protect her and to appeal to ethics was out of the question when she learned with whom she would be compelled to deal in such an appeal. She could show no feeling to the innocent and enthusiastic Americans who went to Bayreuth to attend the Festspiele, and besides this, Frau Cosima is by instinct, education, culture and refined atmosphere, a woman who cannot even suggest any infraction of

The Longworths have been elevated by American society into a representative position and there envelopes them, all protest to the contrary notwithstanding, a semi-official air. The Longworths con-

sist of the daughter of a President of the United States in office and a son-in-law who is at the same time a member of the lower house of the American Congress. In addition to this, as will be seen in the above article, Ambassadors of the United States have been engaged in making the couple comfortable and they have been introduced by them to the Royal families of England and Prussia and to the household of the President of the French Republic. They, therefore, particularly during this tour of Europe, did not represent Mr. and Mrs. Longworth as private citizens, but a semi-official household from the United States, the country which, especially from the point of view of the Court of Wagner at Bayreuth, stole property of the Wagner

Could Cosima Wagner maintain her self respect and yet receive the semi-official Longworths? Certainly not. She was compelled, as a matter of taste, as a matter of ethics, as a matter of civility to others and as a matter strictly regarding her respect for her late husband, her family and herself, to pay no attention to the semi-official Longworths, and in doing so she paid her first attention to that necessary compensatory balance that is essential to the fitness and proportion of life.

No question at all in the minds of the judicious that as a private couple the Longworths would have found Frau Cosima the same woman of the world, the same cultured dame, representing to its completeness the proper regard for all social relations which the world at large has found her in the centers of the highest culture, as well as at her own court, for her home is an art court. But the Longworths were not traveling in Europe as a private couple in the European sense. They were heralded constantly in advance; they were esteemed a part of the official establishment of the President of the United States; they were not only the guests of Emperor, Kings, Republics and Ambassadors, but lodged with some of the latter, and if they assume that Frau Cosima Wagner's refusal to recognize them was a personal question they not only lose sight of the gravity of the offense committed by the United States in the filching of "Parsifal," but they so underrate the social standard of Europe and of Frau Cosima that they run the risk of endorsing her necessary act on the ground that she could have no relations with persons who could

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possibly overlook the outrage committed by us against her and her family.

Mr. and Mrs. Longworth before going to Bayreuth, provided they expected attention from Frau Cosima, should have written that the "Parsifal" outrage is not endorsed by the people of America, and that they regret that it was possible that such a wrong could have been committed against the very fundamental rights of man and woman by persons living in a country that boasts of the protection it grants to individual rights and property. Such a letter would have opened wide the portals of Wahnfried and created such a sentiment as is really necessary now to reconcile these Bayreuth people, if ever they can be reconciled.

If this whole "Parsifal" question is looked upon by us as a mere passing episode and was forgotten by people of the Longworth stamp, then the indictment against us becomes still more formidable, and Frau Cosima must be credited with a deep insight into the character of the American people as exhibited toward her and her personal rights if she insisted upon not overlooking such cosmic indifference as a failure to remember the "Parsifal" outrage. That is shown in the manner in which her treatment of the Longworths was received. Some of the papers called it "rude." Rude, indeed!

However, we have before us the first record in shape of an actual fact following the "Parsifal" infamy; this is not even a beginning; and, as The Musical Courier said in its original treatment of the event, the innocent must suffer for the acts of those who are culpable, for in the very nature of things the men who put through the "Parsifal" scheme proved in the doing of it that they never could be wounded by any refusal to recognize their worth or standing; if they had any they obliterated its record with the "Parsifal" scheme.

Every instinct of decency compels us to admit that Mr. and Mrs. Longworth were merely viewed in the symbolical sense, and that Frau Cosima, in refusing to recognize them, certainly did not intend to reflect upon the lady and the gentleman known as the Longworths. She does not know them. But as a couple representing indirectly social America Frau Cosima could not afford to become acquainted with them after social America had ratified a piracy which it should have rejected with scorn and contempt. The punishment fits the crime, and in time to come many other forms of punishment must necessarily follow the offense against ethics of which we were guilty in the "Parsifal" case. It may as well be said here and attention called to the fact that, while Frau Cosima understands how great the proportion is of American visitors to Bayreuth, she nevertheless never permitted that question to influence her and her attitude toward the Longworths, and I hope this will put an end to the rude asseverations made in certain American papers regarding her abilities as a financier. If Frau Cosima were looking at Bayreuth from the point of profit or income, she would have sacrificed her feelings and showered attentions upon the Longworths. Let us put an end to that brutal charge, utilized particularly during the days of the "Parsifal" excitement and since then repeated. It makes us look still smaller by charging her with the very fault our own conduct towards her proves against us, for "Parsifal" was filched purely and only for money making purposes. Hence it could not affect American art and did not, and hence there is no one credited with any high aims for having had a hand in it. We are a little too practical to make such an error.

BLUMENBERG.

#### Gabrilowitsch to Play in Austria.

Henry L. Mason has just received word from Gabrilowitsch, now in Switzerland, saying that he has just been engaged for several important concerts in Austria for October.



"Rosenthal will make his New York debut on November 7," says a managerial notice. That set me thinking. Rosenthal was the first pianist I ever heard, and since then I have listened to Joseffy, Paderewski, Godowsky, Rubinstein, Von Bülow, Sauer, d'Albert, Friedheim, Reisenauer, Siloti, Van de Sandt, Zeldenrust, Ansorge, Lamond, Borwick, Carreño, Baermann, Bloomfield-Zeisler, d'Ernesti, De Kontski, Lavallée, Rummel, Aus der Ohe, Klindworth, Klahre, Hyllested, Hofmann, Gabrilowitsch, Hegner, Hambourg, Szalit, Bauer, Rivé-King, Burmeister, Burmeister-Petersen, Slivinski, Scharwenka, Huss, MacDowell, Benham, Roger-Miclos, Felix Dreyschock, Jedliczka, Barth, Leschetizky, Voss, Lhévinne, Menter, Stepanoff, Pancera,



LOOKS LIKE SANDOW, BUT IS ROSENTHAL

Panthes, Consolo, Arthur Rubinstein, Schnabel, Mason, Neupert, Lambert, Mills, Sherwood, Saint-Saëns, Sobrino, Jonás, Busoni, Chaminade, Dohnanyi, Diemer, Risler, Cortot, Dulcken, Ehrlich, Eibenschütz, Fay, Freund, Pachmann, Pugno, Ganz, De Greef, Da Motta, Grieg, Grünfeld, Hutcheson, Richard Hoffmann, Hopekirk, D'Indy, Janotha, Kahn, Kleeberg, Koczalski, Franz Kullak, Kwast, Mannstädt, Lutter, Berthe Marx, Moszkowski, Neitzel, Stojowski, Maggie Okey, Emil Paur, Max Pauer, Perry, Pirani, Rehberg, Martha Remmert, Rudorff, Raiff, Sapellnikoff, Schönberger, Stavenhagen, Strelezki, Szumowska, Whiting, Joseph Wicniawski, Marie Wurm, Zwintscher, Zichy, etc.

Almost twenty years ago Nahan Franko dropped in at my parental home one evening and said to the musical family there assembled: "Today I heard the greatest pianist in the world."

My father, a man who gave piano lessons for pleasure and took the money only because he needed it, looked up from his copy of Die Gartenlaube and remarked: "I know that Rubinstein is loud at times, but I didn't think you could hear him across the Atlantic."

"I don't mean Rubinstein," replied Franko; "I mean Rosenthal."

"Who's Rosenthal?" asked my father.

"Moriz Rosenthal—a young pianist who arrived this morning from Europe. He's a pupil of Liszt, and he is to give some recitals here. He had them nearly crazy today at Steinway's. They simply couldn't believe their eyes and ears. He played double thirds more easily than the average pianist' plays plain scales, and he simply toys with the most difficult piano music ever written. 'Diabolical' is the only word to describe the things he did. Compared to him the technic of other pianists is as the lisping of a child to the speech of adults."

Those were strong words, and they made such an impression on the boy of thirteen who was among the listeners that he never forgot them, and has here set them down verbatim. The boy at that time was trying to bridge the technical chasm between Bendel's compositions and Beethoven's earlier sonatas, and already had a correct conception of how hard it is to do difficult things easily on the piano. The boy loved technic for technic's sake, and he thought Kullak's octave studies the most beautiful compositions in the world, when played quickly enough. He had heard only two great pianists up to that time, his father and Joseffy, and on the whole the boy preferred his father, because at the Joseffy concert that master had played some very long and slow pieces by Beethoven and Chopin, which made the boy yawn and fidget and wish he were home. What Franko said about Rosenthal aroused the boy's strongest curiosity, and he resolved to go to another plano recital, a thing which he had sworn never again to do after the Joseffy experience.

"Who is Rosenthal?" was asked during the next few days by many other musical New Yorkers. Modest placards outside of Steinway Hall announced the early appearance of the young Viennese, and caused his name to be spoken about in musical circles. Edmund Stanton, director of the Metropolitan Opera, was Rosenthal's manager, and as the red advertising methods of today were not then in vogue, nothing was published about the newcomer, except the fact that in Europe he was considered one of the best pupils of Liszt, and had already given highly successful recitals in various German and Austrian cities.

rian cities.

Rosenthal's American debut was made in Boston, November 9, 1888, with the assistance of Walter Damrosch and an orchestra. Fritz Kreisler also appeared at that concert for the first time in America. In The Musical Courier of November 14, 1888, there was a criticism of Rosenthal's Boston debut, which the boy of our story read, and later clipped out and pasted in his pianistic scrap book—after he had heard Rosenthal. Here are some passages from the criticism:

"Mr. Rosenthal selected as his cheval de bataille that well worn concerto of Liszt's, the E flat, and no other selection could have been wiser, for in it he had every opportunity of displaying his polished technic and great power. Rosenthal is a virtuoso pure and simple; he dazzles one with his brilliancy, his glittering, burnished technic, and his exquisite delicacy. \* \* \* Such a technic is rare, even in this technic ridden age. \* \* \* He has a dash and fire in his performances that are positively exciting. \* \* \* The scherzo was delightfully crisp and bewilderingly dainty; his touch is crystalline, pure, and in staccato work delicious. delicate tracery of the arabesques in the concerto was absolutely as fine as an etching. \* \* \* In the Chopin selections Herr Rosenthal was heard at his best, and his playing of these two numbers alone would at once lift him above the plane of a mere pianistic prestidigitator. \* \* \* As his finale he played the gigantic Liszt 'Don Juan' fantasy, and simply paralyzed his auditors by his tempi and his prodigious octave playing. Probably in this feature of piano technic he outranks any living pianist; such a delirious dance of octaves has seldom come from pianistic wrists. Rosenthal is at

the 'Sturm und Drang' period. When the artistic clarification takes place he will be a very great ar-\* The audience, which was a representative one, manifested none of the characteristics of Boston audiences. They got excited, they applauded, and gave the pianist as many as four or \* \* He is the outcome of the five recalls. \* Liszt-Tausig advanced school of technical dash, vigor, and orchestral playing, and is certainly a worthy exponent of it.'

Of Kreisler the same report said, among other things: "He has a great talent, which has been abundantly developed; he is musical to his finger tips; his is a fine organization, sensitive and charm-



ROSENTHAL AT THE KEYBOARD OF NATURE.

ing. \* \* \* Hard work and years will put him in the vanguard of his profession.'

So much for the value of THE MUSICAL COURI-ER's critical acumen, even eighteen years ago. Rosenthal has certainly become "a very great artist," and it cannot be doubted that Kreisler is "in the vanguard of his profession."

The Boston notices of Rosenthal made New York sit up and take notice, especially as Walter Damrosch returned to the metropolis with well nigh startling tales of the new pianist's prowess and his overwhelming effect on the audience,

On November 13, 1888, Rosenthal's New York debut took place in Steinway Hall, with orchestra, under Anton Seidl's direction. I-that is, the boy -was not present, but in THE MUSICAL COURIER of November 21, 1888, I read: "Rosenthal made a very strong impression on his audience, and probably not in the past nine years has there been so much enthusiasm manifested about any soloist as for this talented young man. \* \* \* Our Boston impression was deepened by his many fine qualities as an artist. The 'Don Juan' fantasia literally brought down the house on account of its revelation of the soloist's extraordinary pianistic powers. His playing of Chopin's barcarolle exhibited his abilities as a colorist, and was a miracle of shading and tonal balance. Rosenthal, despite his almost absolute technical finish, has not vet said his final say. Too much stress is being laid on his technical skill by current criticism. He has many admirable qualities as a musician, and his Chopin playing is subtle, many sided and exquisitely clear."

~

On the afternoons of November 21 and November 22, 1888, Rosenthal gave his first recitals, and incidentally gave me the stimulus which burdened the world with a bad pianist for some ten or twelve years thereafter. I heard him play the Weber A flat sonata; Chopin's nocturnes in D flat and G flat, the same composer's A flat waltz, A flat ballade and G major "Chant Polonais" (with additions by Rosenthal); Schumann's "Carnaval"; several Liszt rhapsodies made into one marvelous musical omelet by the player; Beethoven's "Appassionata" sonata; the A minor bourrée by Bach, and the "Hexameron" admixture by Chopin-Liszt-Thalberg-Herz-Czerny-

There was one of his hearers whom Rosenthal's playing captured head and heart and body and soul; who sat throughout those two recitals as one spell-

Arion ever had produced; who in his sleeping and waking dreams, for weeks after, heard nothing but the Dionysian riot of the "Carnaval" finale as played by Rosenthal, the Davidoff "Fountain" (in the Rosenthal arrangement) with its shimmering mists of staccato repetitions in fabulous tempo, the witching "Chant Polonais," its haunting beauty made hundredfold more suggestive by the player's interpolated cascades of glittering arpeggi and scintillating cadenzas, the irresistible might of his climaces in the Chopin ballade and barcarolle, the uplift, the surge, the piling of Pelion on Ossa in the "Hexameron fantasy-in short, as I remember it now, there was not a single measure in all of the two recitals which did not burn its individual impress into my brain and play itself over and over again in my mind's ear as I clawed the piano for months afterward and tried to get some of the passages, nay, a single phrase, a shred of a run, to sound as it did under the wizard hands of Rosenthal.

All this seems quite as silly to me now as it must appear to the reader. Other listeners left the Rosenthal recitals limp and discouraged: I rushed away from them filled with encouragement and hope, and went straight to my piano practice of eight hours per diem. What I had heard should have served as a warning, but-I was only thirteen.

On November 24, 1888, Rosenthal played the Chopin E minor concerto at the Symphony Society concert (Metropolitan Opera House, Walter Damrosch, conductor) and introduced me to a new world of tonal delight, for the magician of the piano had discarded all his paraphernalia of display, and told his musical story in a subdued, tender voice that thrilled the more because of its simplicity and its seriousness. Here was a man who could coax as well as command, who could be martial or melancholy as the mood of the music demanded, and who was as much in love with abstract beauty as he was with the rush and roar and clang of battle for battle's sake. There was something else to be got out of the piano, then, besides quick scales and octaves and glissandos and trills in double thirds! That started a new line of thought and a new direction of practice!

Followed more Rosenthal recitals, at which the hero played Beethoven's sonatas, op. 31, No. 3, and op. 109; Brahms' Paganini variations, Chopin's D flat valse (in the Rosenthal double note version) and A flat polonaise, and rhapsodies, "Consolations," "Venezia" tarantelle and "Don Juan" fantasie, all by Liszt. For the last named composition Rosenthal seemed to have saved all those things necessary to complete the destruction of my peace of mind, and to set me climbing that greased pole of fame, of which-after slipping and sliding with ceaseless endeavor-I at last managed successfully to reach the bottom! I shall never forget his playing of the 'Drinking Song" in the Liszt "Don Juan," so aptly described elsewhere in this screed as a "delirious dance of octaves." It was more than that, for back of Rosenthal's mere technic was the man's cyclonic temperament, which swept the audience with such resistless force that all doubts, criticism, hesitation and opposition were rolled pell mell into a tiny bundle and buried deep out of sight in the mighty sea of enthusiasm which welled from the audience, beat upon the stage and seized Rosenthal in a mad, inescapable embrace. Men and women clambered upon their seats in Steinway Hall, threw hats and handkerchiefs in the air, waved shawls and sticks, beat their hands together, pounded the floor, bellowed "bravo," and generally acted as though they had been bewitched, which indeed they were. have often read since of "frenzied audiences," "mad enthusiasm" and "paroxysmal applause," but the only occasions at which I ever saw those conditions really enacted by free agents-meaning persons who were neither impressionable ushers, paid claquers or employees of the firm which was furnishing the bound by more supernatural music than Orpheus or piano-were at the Rosenthal recitals in 1888, at

some of the later Paderewski recitals, and at Godowsky's debut in Berlin some six years ago

Another imperishable memory was the joint appearance of Rosenthal and Joseffy, when they played on two pianos and on the hearts of their hearers at the same time. Who that was there will ever forget the Beethoven-Saint-Saëns variations as read by Joseffy and Rosenthal? And the G flat study of Chopin, played unisono, with a precision and unanimity of touch, tempo and tonal gradation-aside from the more esthetic virtues-which no two improved automatic pianos of the latest day could even hope to approach! It was the first time I had heard Joseffy after my Awakening, and I craved silent pardon of him for ever having thought of the second greatest Raphael in the world as a man who played long slow pieces of music and put stupid boys to

I desired to see Rosenthal at close range and to hear him speak, so I was taken to the artist room by my father. There was another father there, who also was a music teacher, who also had brought his little son, who was also an aspiring piano student. He was introduced first. "Kiss Mr. Rosenthal's hand," the boy's father said. Rosenthal flushed angrily, put his hands behind his back and snapped out: "What nonsense! I'm no woman." I thought of that little episode years afterward, when I met Rosenthal in Europe, and knew him well enough to talk about those critics who were not yet converted completely to the Rosenthalian code musical. "They say," I began, "that you are not sentimental enough, that your music doesn't sob-

"Why should I sob?" demanded Rosenthal, with the same angry flush I had seen before. "I'm no

That is the keynote of Rosenthal's personality as man and as an artist. He is masculine through and through, and it is this splendid virility which has always effectually prevented him from making the slightest appeal to that portion of the public which mistakes slobbering for sentiment, egotism for inspiration, and exaggeration for emotion. **FEE FEE** 

Many times I have heard Rosenthal since that significant winter of 1888, and his playing has never failed to grip me as elementally and forcefully as it did then. Time does not seem to dull the man's magnetism, but rather to intensify it. It goes without saying that the years have mellowed Rosenthal in some important respects. If every seven years make a change in our spiritual life, almost every day makes a change in the angle at which a true artist views music. Rosenthal now loves much of the music which formerly he merely respected. Having long since attained the highest peak of virtuos-



ROSENTHAL'S TWO RIGHT HANDS.

ity, it was but natural for a man with his abnormal intellect to turn to more enduring forms of art. Not that he despises its technic, for having it, he knows its paramount value. (It is almost an axiom in music, by the way, that executants abhor technic in inverse ratio to the degree in which they possess it.)

Rosenthal will never be able to escape his technic and-thank goodness-he does not even try. As he himself once remarked humorously: "What shall I do with it, give it away?

Dull witted commentators and public critics have distorted this question of technic into an entirely false aspect. When a man plays wrong notes they say: "He has not that degree of technic which nowadays is demanded of a concert player." When the same man plays as faultlessly as a pianola they say: "His perfection is mechanical; if only he would miss a note here and there and be human.'

A wrong note in a performance is a misdemeanor and two wrong notes are a crime. All the correct phrasing in the world does not compensate for the violation of the very letter of a composer's intention, of the thing itself. If an actor playing "Richard III" were to say: "A horse—a kingdom for a cow!" we would not forgive him, no matter how fine his spiritual conception of the misquoted line. Why, then, allow pianists to play B flat where Chopin wrote A, and to crash out discords in place of the agreeable harmonies written by Beethoven or Liszt?

Technic is really the most difficult thing in the world to acquire, and for proof we need only look at the critics. They have easily penetrated into the most abstruse meanings of music (as witness their instructions to composers and performers), but not one of them is possessed of even a scintilla of technic on any musical instrument or in the composing of music.

I did not forgive Rosenthal for the pernicious example he set me until I heard him at his sensational Berlin recitals ten years ago or so. Then I gave up piano, took to practicing billiards, and have attained commendable proficiency in that gentlemanly game. Later I heard Rosenthal in London, in Leipsic, in New York, in Hanover, in Hamburg-ever and always he seemed to me to have gone several steps upward in his steady march toward Parnassus, and to be more masterful, more mysterious, more mas velous than when I had heard him the time before. That is a peculiar property of Rosenthal's playing. We hear of some pianists who have "gone back" after a few years of success; of others who gave up public life (or were given up by it) and have chosen to "devote themselves to the noble profession of perpetuating their art by instructing a limited class of advanced pupils"; and then there are the specialists who do their tricks for us until they become stale and unprofitable, and we relegate them to the dust bin of oblivion. Rosenthal, however, has been in the public eve these twenty-five years, and is today as fresh, as engaging and as potent a pianist and personality as he was in the first days of his musica! coming out. Berlin hailed him as a hero only two seasons ago, and bought out six or eight of his concerts as though he were the very latest novelty in musical attractions. Can mere technic do that? Does technic conquer so consistently, so completely and so continuously? Is technic all that Rosenthal has to offer? His own career answers the ques-

As for Rosenthal's accomplishments outside of piano playing-but that's another story.

LEONARD LIEBLING.

CANNED meats are not the only American products against which the reformers are moving these days. John Philip Sousa contributes an article to the current Appleton's Magazine on "canned music," a term which he applies to all music made by automatic piano-players, gramophones, phonographs, talking machines and other mechanical devices of similar nature and purpose. Mr. Sousa points out that our national music sense will become blunted if we go on allowing all our music to be ground out for us by machinery. The process, he says, must sooner or later lead to the elimination of all personality in music. The baby will be lullabied by machinery; the soldier, as he dashes into battle on his 100 horse power motor, will be inspired by the music

box on the front seat grinding out "The Stars and Stripes Forever"; the lover, as he paddles his faire ladye on the moonlit lake, will place a phonograph amidships to croon the love songs of long ago; the Spanish serenader will have his task made easy by the infernal mechanical contrivance, which he need merely place beneath the charmer's window, and let it "do the rest." That is not exactly the language in the Sousa article, but it is the gist of his main argument against "discs" and "rolls" and the other modern forms of the tuneful art. He says also, with praiseworthy frankness, that part of his distaste for the automatic music producers is caused by the fact that the United States copyright laws donot afford him any means whereby to collect royalties on those of his compositions which have been "canned" by the reproducing companies. Apart from his self interest in the matter, however, Sousa advances some sound ethical arguments why home music should not be given over entirely to the ubiquitous machines, and his plea for the retention of the older forms of musical pleasure, as practiced by our forefathers and by us in our youth, strikes a vital issue and should be well heeded. Possibly Sousa is something of a prophet, and while at present the cause of music proper does not seem to have been damaged very seriously, there is no telling what the future conceals along those lines. There are some forms of music which we would gladly like to see supplanted by the mechanical devices, but, alas! the prospect of relief seems slim indeed. We refer to boys who fill the streets with harmonica music on summer nights, hurdy-gurdys which play silly tunes under our editorial windows, parlor tenors with violet voices, children who practice scales on cold winter mornings before breakfast, the soprano soloist in the next flat, ferryboat music, and German singing societies which give concerts with programs of fifty two numbers. But no doubt we are selfish in our desire, for these things would not exist if they were not enjoyed by at least some of the people some of the time.

#### Rugo Kaun at the Essen Music Festival.

Among the fourteen big works that were performed at the forty-second meeting of the Allgemeiner Musik Verein at Essen, in May, Hugo Kaun's string quartet in D achieved the greatest success. The Essen Volks-Zeitung and the Hanover Courier speak of the work as follows:

A really great success, what is called a "Bombeuerfolg," was achieved by Hugo Kaun, with his glorious string quartet, in D. Kaun was born March 21, 1863, and has published a large number of compositions of great musical value. He belongs today to those German musicians who have found general recognition. He is a composer of remarkable versatility; his works represent the most varied fields of musical productivity, and we justly, frequently find his name on German concert programs. This quartet in its structure and theme is highly original and it is invested with a wealth of melody and cuphony that holds the hearer spellbound from the first note to the last. One noticed at once how the opening measures of the first movement, in the form of a broad fugue, made an impression on the public such as has not yet been seen at this festival, and at the close of the movement strong applicate broke out, which increased after the scherno. And after the last movement, which begins quietly and dreamily, reaches a climax and then dies away, a veritable hurricane of applicase shook the building. The composer was compelled to appear again and again. It was a success such as this hall never sew before. The performance by the Munich musicion was aplendid.—Essen Volks-Zeitung, May 29, 1906.

The Munich String Quartet accred with Hugo Kaun's quartet in A really great success, what is called a "Bombeuerfolg,

by the Munich musician was splendid.—Essen Volks-Zeitung, May 29, 1906.

The Munich String Quartet accred with Hugo Kaun's quartet in D, a huge success. Is the work in its structure remarkable—two slow movements, with a scherzo between them—oo must our admiration for the composer increase when we see what deep feeling be infuses at once with the first movement, and that, too, in a fugue in double counterpoint, that strict form which is often ridiculed and called worm eaten by the hyper-moderns. We celebrated its resurrection. Two simple, but all the more pleasing and soutful themes, formed the foundation of this movement, so full of feeling. Even in the scherzo Kaun could not deny that he is a master of cartillens, ain the theme in D flat proved. And now the last movement! A "Stimmung's Bild" of the noblest character, made up principally of two themes of which the dreamy one, with the diminished fifth, is of unusual heauty.—Hanover Courier, May 29, 1996.

#### Tecla Vigna Will Have Her Own School.

Tecla Vigna, one of the leading singing and repertory teachers of the Middle West, will have their own school in Cincinnati. The institute will be called the Tecla Vigna School of Voice and Dramatic Action, and will be located in Odd Fellows' Temple, corner of Seventh and Elm streets. More about Madame Vigna's school will be nced in future editions of THE MUSICAL COURIER,

#### Myer Going to Pacific Coast.

Edmund J. Myer has just closed the twenty-second cason of the National Summer School, at Round Lake, N. Y. About fifty singers and teachers from many different States were enrolled, the best all round class the school has had for years. A number of musicales were given in Griffin Institute, and two grand concerts in the Auditorium. At the last concert "The Prince of Peace," by Gaul, was sung, under the direction of Mr. Myer. John Randolph, Robert G. Weigester and Ethel Myer ably assisted in the work of the school.

Myer has not stopped work for about a generation He feels the need of a complete rest and will start about September 1 for the Pacific Coast, where he will spend e time on his ranch in the State of Washington, and will also visit Scattle. He will give a series of fectures on the Coast, and will later probably take a limited number of pupils in Seattle, returning East in time for the twenty third session of his summer school at Round Lake, summer

of 1907.

As he has sublet his studio in New York for one year only, his many friends and pupils hope to see him back again in New York by the fall of 1907, in robust health and ready for work, as usual.

#### Lambert Preparing for His Pupils.

Alexander Lambert, who is now at his country h 'Aldom," on Lake Hopatcong, N. J., will return to New York next month and resume his teaching. A number of ambitious pianists are to study with Mr. Lambert this ming season. Several professional pupils will also come back to Mr. Lambert this autumn and winter for advance

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#### CLEVELAND.

CLEVELAND, August 23, 1906.

Such a hotness as is now prevailing makes or for Arctic frigidity. I am informed authoritatively that the water of Lake Erie is hot enough to boil legs in, at least the bathers so report it. In the meantime the rural highway and the shaded wood for yours truly.

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Charles Heydler, who is now touring Europe, writes that he is having the musical time of his life. from Munich says that he is enjoying the Mozart Festival quite beyond anything in his experience. Heydler has the artistic temperament and a fine 'cello technic, so that this infusion of European musical enthusiasm will, I presume, add much to his artistic equipment. Heydler has been prominently identified with our local musical life for some twenty years and he has done much to aid in the elevation of the standard of musical appreciation. Added to this is a genial personality which has won for him many friends. PE PE

The last heard from Felix Hughes he was chasing a golf ball in the vicinity of Glasgow. Presume also that he succeeded in chasing a few Scotch highballs down his larynx. Hoot mon! Hoot! At any rate Hughes says that he will realize the full import of his front name when he again puts foot in Cleveland.

Brahm Van den Berg, who is doing some advanced class teaching here this summer, will locate in Chicago the com-He is preparing a repertory for the season including a tour with the Chicago Orchestra. The grand pianos in my studio have sent in a protest to me for overork superinduced by Van den Berg's strenuous practicing. I comfort them by the assurance that they seldom have so distinguished an artist tickle their ivories; besides I have promised to have a tuner feel of their pulse after the artistic atmosphere clears.

Richard Haas, a local composer of undisputed talent, has been writing some orchestral pieces, including a sympho-Creatore will include one of his late compositions in his program at Euclid Gardens on Sunday evening next. Haas also written a characteristic nocturne for the piano which Van den Berg has in hand for performance this winter. Haas has genuine talent, and I am glad to see him gaining recognition, for he fully deserves it.

@ @

William Saal, a local vocal teacher, was recently seen in the Munich Hof Brau discussing Mozart, with the national beverage as a concomitant. Carl Dufft, of New York, was also guilty of lubricating some of his chest tones at the There is nothing like foreign atmosphere to same place. stimulate high art. I could stand some of the stimulant myself.

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I have it on good authority that the new Hippodrome, Max Faetkenheuer, manager, will organize an orchestra of sixty players for popular concerts when the new amuse-ment resort is opened. Adolf Liesigang, formerly with the Savage Opera Company, will have the baton in hand. and the probabilities are that a highly efficient orchestra will be evolved from local material.

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A letter recently received from Nebraska indicates that THE MUSICAL COURSER is perused out that way, for the writer suggests that my "obituary" of the M. T. N. A., while apropos, was rather late. He claims that the M. T. N. A. was a "dead one" some time ago. It must have oc-

The September Number Contains:

Recent Progress in Education in Music ... LEONARD B. McWHOOD Music in "Mayflower" Days. L. O'CONNELL Indoor Music in September LOUISE KARR Trend of Modern Composition.

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curred when I was one of the "wigglers," and had fallen from the wagon to wagging. Such being the case, I a preciate and sympathize with friend Corey, the non-prof.

Charles E. Clemens, our noted organist, has closed his organ school for the rest of the summer and is now sojourning at Cambridge Springs, Pa., to enjoy otium cum Clemens has added materially to his organ repertory for the coming season and his recital programs will include many of the best modern works for his instrument.

Francis Sadlier has been too busy at his studio to take an extended vacation this summer. He, too, has been augmenting his vocal repertory preparatory to concert work the coming fall and winter. Sadlier is a progressive artist. the coming fall and winter.

Edwin H. Douglass has deserted his studio and is treating his vocal apparatus to copious inhalations of ozone, not to mention a certain supineness superinduced by contiguous umbrageousness, whatever that means. To friend Douglass it represents comfort and needed recuperation

I understand that the Sunday "Pops" will be continued this winter. Whether there will be any changes in the plans heretofore pursued I am as yet uninformed. Sunday band concerts have been exploited by the city in our parks during the summer, much to the satisfaction of the suffering public.

The Singers' Club has finally decided upon A. L. Davis, an amateur of some ability, to succeed Clemens as director. Whether it will be a case of the blind leading the blind remains to be seen. With a goodly number of com-petent and deserving musicians in the city it seems a pity that this fine body of singers should lower its standard by engaging amateur rather than professional talent to direct its career. With such capable directors in the city as Johann Beck, Emil Ring and Charles G. Sommer I see no valid reason for the exploitation of other than competent WILSON G. SMITH. and educated musicians.

#### DETROIT.

DETROIT, August 22, 1906. Frederick T. Alexander, who obtained such excellent results with the Orpheus Club and the Church Choral Society last season, will direct both organizations during the Mr. Alexander announces one public concert ensuing year. by the Orpheus Club and two concerts by the Church Choral Society. Madame Kelsey will be soloist with the Orpheus while Julian Walker, baritone, and Janet Spencer, contralto, will be the soloists with the Church Choral Society.

Elvin Singer is at present rusticating and preparing himself for the season's work. His studios have been redecorated in his absence, and when alterations are completed he will possess one of the most beautiful apartments in the city.

During the period from April to November of each year e of the most familiar figures on our streets is that of Fritz Kalsow, manager of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, who is busy during the months named securing sub scriptions for the following season. Mr. Kalsow's scription list already indicates that the season of 1906-7 will e one of the most successful the organization has known. Director Hugo Kelsow is busy planning his programs and arranging his classes for the fall term. @ @

The writer enjoyed a very pleasant hour with Albert Janpolski, the Russian baritone, during his stay in the city yesterday. Mr. Janpolski was en route to New York from Chicago, where he recently made a most successful appearance with the New York Symphony Orchestra at Ravinia **401** 401

Creatore is completing his fourth week of concerts in Detroit during the present season, which is the record for band concerts in Detroit. The special evenings devoted to French, German and Italian music have drawn large audi-TAMES E. DEVOE.

#### Change of Name and Location

The Clavier Piano School, formerly conducted by A. K. Virgil, at 11 West Twenty-second street, will open Sep tember I at 2231-35 Broadway. A violin department has been added, and this will be directed by Joseph Kovarik a member of the Philharmonic Orchestra. There will also be a vocal department, under the direction of Mr. Hayes, recently returned from Paris. The new institution will be called the Virgil School of Music.

Emile Sauret, the violinist, has taken up his residence in Geneva, Switzerland, where he will devote himself principally to teaching, varied with occasional concert tours.

#### ADDITIONAL DENVER NEWS.

Wilhelm Schmidt, of Colorado Springs, has returned m a mountain trip.

The Tuesday Musical Club, while they have not yet anunced their list of soloists for the new season, will undoubtedly bring the best artists available for the series of concerts, which comprise three evening and three afternoon events, when the chorus of over sixty ladies presents programs of great worth and musical beauty. Of all the musical events of a season in Denver, probably the most d and most important are the concerts of the Tuesday Musical Club, its patrons filling the large church auditoriums where they occur with representative and enthusias The club holds examinations for membership in the autumn of each year and while the requirements for admission are rather strict and exacting, the scholarship of the members admitted is made unformly satisfactory thereby, enabling the organization to accomplish remarkably good results along serious lines of research and performance. The afternoon concerts are usually given by members, and many debuts are made therein by young musicians of promise.

The Apollo Club will also, it is hoped, undertake ambitious and worthy work for the season of 1906-07, and if they only do as well as their best has been heretofore, the world will hear of very creditable things accomplished by them; of late years the Apollo Club of Denver has made only spasmodic efforts to maintain the former dard, which was indeed a high one, but their unaided work of last season gave an impetus to their popularity, and, it is hoped, to their enthusiasm. The Apollo Club has about forty or fifty good voices, and during its existence of fifteen years has given many notable concerts in Denver.

The Denver Auditorium, which is to be one of the great institutions of the country for conventions and other large gatherings, has been begun, although only the excavating and other preparatory work is under way as yet, and by next spring it will in all probability be opened with a notable event, possibly a season of grand opera. The auditorium is to have facilties for either the uses of an ordinary theater or for almost unlimited gatherings of all kinds.

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While we feel in Denver that we have many advantages of a musical nature that entitle the city to importance among the musical centers of the country, it is a fact that more people witnessed a recent "championship prize fight," at a cost of \$1 to \$3, than have patronized any musical event of importance in several years, and it was only an 'ordinary fight" at that. Perhaps it is apropos to mention that a local paper this morning states that a certain young woman here has, by practicing at a piano ten hours a day or some time, developed "arms like a blacksmith's" and biceps "muscles like a pugilist's."

E. W. Kettering, H. C. Martin, Mrs. E. K. Martin and Bessie Dade Hughes formed a quartet which was heard in a charming concert some time ago in Longmont, Col. All are well known singers of Denver.

**电** Emil Tiferro, eminent for many years as a tenor in grand opera in America and Europe, and later as a teacher of is art, has spent the summer upon his ranch near the city, where he enjoys many rustic pursuits and pleasures the same time being near to his studios, from which he seldom remains away long at any time. Professor Tiferro is preparing for the coming winter term of work with enthusiasm, and his pupils are to be heard in a number of new things; his concerts and recitals always rank among the foremost events of the kind during the season.

Robert Slack is to give another season of artist concerts during the winter, having, it is understood, already engaged Madame Sembrich for the first of his events, with several other world famous singers and players to follow. Mr. Slack is a manager of experience, discretion and courage, and he also, as well as Mrs. Long, surpasses the orchestral association in giving the city the benefit and pleasure of hearing the best artists obtainable

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Hattie Louise Sims, who is known widely as the musical director of The Tuesday Musical Club of Denver, one of the finest and largest ladies' choruses in America, and who also enjoys the distinction of extensive fame as a vocal er, presented two of her principal pupils-Bessie Dade Hughes and Forrest S. Rutherford-in a comprehensive program of solo and duet selections, which was largely attended. Mrs. Hughes has a fine voice, well controlled and pleasingly used to express her artistic sentiments, and Mr. Rutherford is a young baritone of whom much is expected in the near future, as his voice is a most excellent and promising one and his personality attractive. F. T. M.

#### CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, August 24, 1906.
The Metropolitan College of Music, Elocution and Dramatic Art has issued its prospectus for the season of 1906-7. The academic year begins September 10, 1906, and closes June 22, 1907. W. S. Sterling, who has a national reputation as organist, is the dean, while the business man-agement is in the hands of G. M. Schmitthenner. The Metropolitan College of Music offers to fill a greatly felt want in musical education in America, viz., to furnish to the student a complete, rounded, technical, professional education at a reasonable expenditure of time and money Every musician, to meet the demands of today, should know how to sing and to perform on the piano (and one orchestral instrument), and should have a theoretical practical knowledge of harmony, counterpoint and composition, and have also a general knowledge of the history and criticism of his art The great conservatories of Europe give such a rounded, full professional training to their graduates, and it is the aim of the Metropolitan College of Music to give a complete professional education in the same amount of time and at about the same cost of tuition as in the Euro pean consrevatories, so as to prepare the musician here for the exacting demands made upon him as teacher, choir leader, ensemble and orchestral player and comp

The regular collegiate course offers to the students the advantages and methods of a European concervatory, combined with those of our American schools of music. Students are organized into classes under experienced and successful professors, the time being distributed among the vital elements of musical education. Although a large amount of private training is nevertheless necessary in all departments of musical culture, it is acknowledged that incalculable benefits are gained by class work and that the students exert as great an influence for good on one The faculty numanother as the ablest faculty can exert. bers among its members Sidney C. Durst, S. Elizabeth Mathias, Alma R. Sterling, piano; W. S. Sterling, S. Elizabeth Mathias, J. Frederick Lampe, Gilbert Schramm, G. M. Schmitthenner, voice; W. S. Sterling, Sidney C. Durst, organ; Richard Schliewen, violin; W. S. Sterling, Sidney Durst, theory and composition; Mary S. Neff, elocution; F. Hoffer McMechan, dramatic art.

Dean W. S. Sterling, S. Elizabeth Mathias and Richard Shliewen, of the Metropolitan School of Music, and Romeo Gorno, who returns to the College of Music next season as teacher of piano, are at Winona Lake, Ind., where they are conducting large private and ensemble classes in the summer music school.

~ Edwin W. Glover announces the organization of a new mixed chorus of eighty-five voices, to be known as the Musical Art Society. The purpose of this society is to Musical Art Society. The purpose of this society is to present those works which are best fitted for performance by a small but highly efficient chorus of trained singers. The repertory of the society will embrace the masterpieces of vocal composition, à capella, of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries of Palestrina, Praetorius, De Pres, Vittoria. Gabrieli, Schutz, Sweelinck, etc.; the Bach motes and can-tatas, and modern works of Mendelssohn, Cornelius, Brahms, Taneyef, Richard Strauss, Max Reger, etc. This opens to the Cincinnati musical public an entirely new and hitherto unpresented choral literature. The society will be conducted on the same plane as the Musical Art Society in New York and the Choral Art Society in Boston. It is proposed to give three subscription concerts the coming season, in December, February and April, rehearsals beginning the first Monday evening in October. In the furtherance of his plans Mr. Glover has succeeded in securing the hearty co-operation of Sidney C. Durst as accompanis

Bernard Hemmersbach, the well known pianist, who has his studio in Paris, writes to his brother, the Rev. A. Hemmersbach, former professor of music in the Seminary of Mt. St. Mary's, that he is spending his vacation at Ainay de Chateau, a beautiful wooded country near Vichy. France. Mr. Hemmersbach expects to gain new strength and energy for his next season's concert work. His recitals will be given monthly in and about Paris. Last May he made a new contract for three years with one of the leading Parisian piano firms. His latest address is 30 Boulevard St. Marcel, Paris, France, and his American address, the Metropolitan School of Music, 2413-15 Auburn avenue, Cincinnati.

#### Puccini's Scores.

Puccini's scores are the study of a lifetime, says the London World, and there is only one man in Mesars. Ricordi's office in Milan who has mastered the art of deciphering them. Sometimes the page looks as if a fly had crawled over it, sometimes as if an elephant with inky feet had trampled on it, and everywhere are weind flourishes and thumbnail sketches and notes, seemingly superfluous, which have overflowed into the margin, and blots innumerable. It is easy to understand that if such is the

case with scores written in the ordinary way, that of "Madam Butterfly" was a still greater puzzle to the reader. A fac-simile has been published of it, which makes one wonder how the composer himself could find his way through it. Another specimen of his caligraphy, taken from the end of "La Bohème," shows a page covered with illegible notes, and in one corner a large drawing of a skull and crossbones, underneath which is written in large letters. "Mimi."

#### Another Yaw Criticism.

Ellen Beach Yaw, whose phenomenal success in California has been reported in The Musical Course and who obtains unheard of prices for seats there, and who has but to announce a concert to be assured of an overflowing auditorium, has had few more enthusiastic auditness than that of March 5 at the New York Hippodrome, when 5,000 persons united in paying her homage. We have hitherto quoted other papers, and append that of the New York American.

AMERICAN SOPRANO IS HIPPODROME SUCCESS.

Patrons of the Hippodrome were last night treated to an unusually high class musical program. The artists were Ellen B. Yaw, the American soprano, who made her first appearance ofter eight years of study abroad, during which she accomplished a marvelous improvement in the range and quality of her voice; Kubelik, the noted violinist, and Victor Herbert and his celebrated orchestra. All three were well received.

All three were well received.

Miss Yaw made many friends by her rendition of the mad scene from "Lucia," the bell song from "Lakme" in the original key, the "Last Rose of Summer," and a laughing song which struck a responsive chord in the audience. The bouse was crowded to the doors, and contained many people of prominence.

#### Madame Mielke to Return to Berlin.

Antonia Mielke, the famous prima donna, formerly of the Metropolitan Opera, who has been living at New London, Conn., for the past year, will sail for Germany next week. She has devoted her whole time during her stay in New London to instructing Mrs. George S. Palmer, wife



MARY HISSEM DE MOSS WRITES FROM MUNICH.

of a wealthy manufacturer and possessor of a beautiful dramatic soprano voice. Mme. Wielke will return to Berlin, where she will resume her teaching. Her unique engagement by Mr. Palmer attracted a great deal of attention. It is the first instance on record of a renowned artist being engaged for exclusively private lessons for a whole year. Mrs. Palmer, who has made remarkable progress under Mme. Mielke's guidance, will accompany her to Germany for further study and also for concert and operatic work.

#### Wileys at Mountain Lake, Chautauqua.

Clifford Wiley, the baritone, and Mrs. Wiley, who most successfully attends to his business affairs, are at the Mountain Lake Chautauqua, Maryland, filling a five days' engagement. Some of his songs are: "Lorna," "Thora," "Toreador Song," "Il Balen," "Killarney," "Anchored," cavatina from "Faust," "The Low Backed Car," "The Minstrel Boy," and J. Lewis Browne's "Nanninni." Mr. Wiley annually sings at this Chautauqua, where he is much beloved, and encores and recalls to the number of five are frequent.

#### The Robinsons Are Active.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Robinson are spending the summer at Paul Smith's, in the Adirondacks, where they have charge of the music of the Church of St. John's in the Wilderness, Mrs. Robinson being the organist and Mr. Robinson leading the singing. Although enjoying the many pleasant drives and boat trips with which this district abounds, they found time, in addition to their Sunday work, to sing at a number of concerts, including such places as Paul Smith's Hotel and Hotel Ampersand at Saranac Lake.

#### Aus der Ohe on the Bremen.

Adele Aus der Ohe sailed on the steamer Bremen from Hoboken yesterday, accompanying the remains of her deceased sister, Matilda Aus der Ohe, who died at Peekskill, N. Y., ten days ago. The interment will take place in Berlin. In view of this bereavement, the celebrated pianist has no fixed plans for the coming season.

#### MUSICAL PEOPLE.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.-The Eilenberg Studio of Music gave recently the sixth annual pupils' concert, and the one hundred and fifteenth since the school was established. The Montgomery Symphony Orchestra assisted the following named pupils in a long program: Helen Weil, Gladys Hudson, Cecil Davis, Phyllis Gayle, Darien Jones, Nellie Bowdoin, Myrtle Thompson, Ellie Gay, Marjory Bruce, Isabel Norwood, Virginia Tyson, Frances Waller, Irma Rice, Irma Wollner, Claudia Moritz, Jeanetta Lobman, Babette Altmayer, Thomas McDonough, Carroll Dowe, Jeanette Haas, Ophelia McLemore, Lorana Cain, Florence Harris, Frances Pelzer, Elizabeth Pelzer, Alice Pelzer, Marcella Sabel, Lucy Liby, Phedora Randolph, Irma Bernheimer, Hazel Weaver, Anita Strassburger, Effie Lee, Marion Lee, Lee Marks, Sadie Frank, Dora Frank, Jeanne Weil, Emma L. Thomas, Maud Shaw, Bertie Weil, Myrtle Garrett, Florence Marks, Kate Durr, Louise Glass, Carrie White Bean, Sallie Culver, Fannie Gray Pearce, Cecil Loeb, Annie Chandler, Julia Henderson, Jessie Hattemer, Lucharille Wilson, Ray Cadden, Ella Klein, Annie May Grigg, and the Misses Cobbs, Cornwall, Gardon, Sistrunk, Jacobi and Wilson and Mrs. Harper.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO.—Besaie Parry, Jessie Smith, Leah Moyer, Verina Holtzman and Margaret Garvin, all piano pupils of George J. Assion, won prizes at the recent closing recital given by their teacher. Works by Handel, Chopin and Mendelssohn were played by the young women. Gwendolin Thomas, who assisted in the program, received special mention.

BROCKTON, MASS.—At the end of the aummer term Almeda Drake presented the following piano pupils at a concert in Grand Army Hall: Helen Washburn, Walter Washburn, Ethel Washburn, Martin Young, Earle French, Margaret and Mary Barry, Merle Hagar, Harriet Kingsbery, Helen Sewall, Anna Long, Mildred Roberts, Lulu Harris, Marion Bailey, Mary McMahon, of Randolph; Maud Kelley, of Canton, Harold Smith, Ethel Parker, Evangeline Meade, Helen Russell, Helen Lutted, Isabelle Burnham, Hattie Whiting and Thomas McCarthy, of Stoughton. Mrs. Harry A. Washburn, reader, added to the interest of the entertainment.

BRIDGETON, N. J.—Music lovers of Bridgeton and nearby places attended the last musicale given by Jessie D. Carmann and some of Miss Carmann's pupils. Piano and vocal numbers were presented by Emily Thompson, Almeda Thompson, Mary R. Pedrick, Ida M. Kiper, Lottiè Davis, Ida Finley, Ruth E. Pfeiffer, Charles B. Kiper, Mabel Lee, Maud Hutchinson, Helen Hamilton, Bertha Johnson and Mrs. Maurice Glaspey.

JACKSON, MICH.—Azartel Smith gave her thirty-first song recital at her studio on West Main street, assisted by a number of her most advanced pupils. Miss Bigbee was the piano accompanist. The vocalists included Laura Koch, Belle Smith, Frederick Smith, J. T. Clark, Mesdames Tracy and Fritz, and the Misses Boley, Russ, Burns and Draner.

WORCESTER, MASS.—The piano pupils of Olive M. Brooks played at a matinee and evening concert at Salisbury Hall to close a long and successful season. Some of the young pianists were: Master Walter Butler, Rosamond Pierce, Frances Goodwin, James Buckley, Rachael Little, Clarence Crane, Dorothy Elliott, Paul Haines, Walter Wickstrom, Ralph Daniels, Claire Butler, Frank Cronin, Walter Pike, Roger Brooks, Esther Chapin, Gertrude Dunn, Katherine Wyatt, Frances Kidder, Florence Nichols, Ethel Pierce, Gladys Arey, Julia Wilson, Bessie Newell, Master Roger Potter, Master Harold McQuoid, Ruth Atherton, Master Harold Smith and Jessie Burkett. Vocal numbers at both concerts were added by Mr. and Mrs. Mayhew and Miss Mayhew.

TRENTON, N. J.—Many music lovers attended the last musicale of Mrs. G. H. Waterhouse at 141 Centre street. These pupils of both sexes gave the program: Myrtle Ashmore, Mabel Nicoll, Myrtle Carter, Miriam Convery, Ada Taffner, May Stanton, Jennie Stone, Sara Stone, Helen Wytko, Mary Wytko, Ida Blaugund, Richard Boydell, Frank Guenther, Leon van Horn, Minerva van Sant, Anna Schaumloeffel and Master Joseph Hoppe.

EAST PEPPERELL, MASS.—Piano and voice pupils of Ida E. Dow, of Nashua, N. H., united in a recital at Laurence Hall, East Pepperell, Mass. July 6. Margaret Anderson, violinist, assisted in an excellent program.

BRANTFORD, CONN.—Pupils of Miss Shannon, Miss Drew, Miss Lundy and Mr. Andrews united in the June commencement concert at the Conservatory of Music at 30 Nelson street. Edith Burrill played the Mendelssohn "Rondo Capriccioso" as the opening number of the program. Other piano and vocal selections were given by Anna Kerr, Luella Anderson, Miss Hill, Ella Moffat, Edna Phillips, Edith Whittaker, Miss Dalzell, Blanche Mitchell, Annie Lundy, Myrtle Nicol, Ella Chalcraft, Alice Bloxham, Miss Wells, Mr. Baker and Nellie Glaves.



OCEAN GROVE, N. J., August 27, 1906

The greatest musical season ever known at Ocean Grove is drawing to a close. "A Night in Fairyland," arranged for Friday night, is a repetition of the children's festival concert given here two weeks ago. Decorators are now at work transforming the great building into a Japanese garden, with its myriad of electric lights. This concert is given as a part of the carnival held for the children in Asbury Park, and it is expected that every one of the 10,000 seats will be sold.

On Saturday evening the last miscellaneous concert will be given by the orchestra and several prominent soloists. On Monday evening, September 3, the final concert of the season will be given, when Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be produced by the New York and the Ocean Grove combined choruses, numbering over seven hundred voices. The soloists will be Genevieve Clark Wilson, soprano; Mary Byrne Ivy, contralto; Daniel Beddoe, tenor, and William Harper, basso. Grace Underwood will sing the part of the Youth. The orchestra will be enlarged to eighty play-

The Baptist Temple Choir of Brooklyn, of which Tali Esen Morgan is the director, is coming in a body to hear "Elijah." There will be fully 150 singers. They will come on the special train with the New York Festival This train will be an all day excursion from New York, leaving Liberty street at 9 o'clock in the morning and returning after the performance in the evening. The round trip fare will be only \$1, so that music lovers can for \$1.50 secure the best reserved seat and pay their train fare from New York. It is expected that a thousand people will be on the train.

Such a season has never been known at Ocean Grove The hotels and boarding houses have been crowded all The halls, parlors and even the writing rooms are crowded with cots, and such a condition has never before existed here. It is all attributed to Tali Esen Morgan and his concerts. He has apparently made this place the greatest musical center of America. Indeed, were it not for the fact that he has everything in his own hands, it could not have been done. The musicians who have attended the festivals this year have wondered at the wonderfully artistic work that has been done by both the chorus and orchestra. It is all very well for people who have not been here, and who do not know what is being done, to sneer at a summer chorus and an orchestra com posed mainly of girls, but let those speak who know, and

they will tell you that better oratorio singing can not be heard in this country. Julian Edwards, the composer, heard his "Redeemer" given here this summer-its first production—and he marveled at the high standard of excellence of choir and orchestra. The leading oratorio and concert artists of America have appeared on the Auditorium platform, and to the last one they will testify that better work is not done in this country. Let these doubters come to Ocean Grove on Labor Day and hear "Elijah," listen to the work of the chorus and the playing of the orchestra, and give their frank opinion.

One of the new features introduced this year by Mr. Morgan was the robed Temple choir. This organization has appeared every morning during the season at the young people's meeting in the Temple, and the processionals and recessionals have formed a most interesting

Como, a most delightful spot a few miles below this point

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on the Atlantic coast.

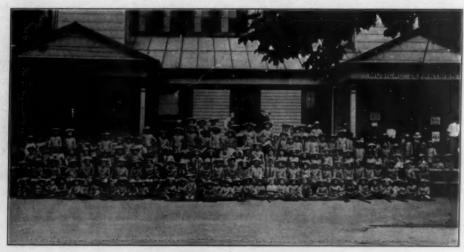
part of the services. They appeared for the last time on Saturday morning. Each member is to be presented with a gold badge as a token of his and her faithfulness.

**心** Mr. Morgan has been fortunate in having for his assistant choral conductor Dr. Frederic Charles Freemantel, of Philadelphia. This young man has had experience in this line of work abroad, and Mr. Morgan says that he never had such an efficient assistant before. Dr. Freemantel loves hard work, and his ability has been fully demonstrated in his training of the children's chorus and also the festival chorus. He is a tenor soloist of ability, and holds some of the best positions in his city. He is well liked by all, and his worth is fully recognized at Ocean Grove.

The Ocean Grove Orchestra will leave on its annual vacation to the Thousand Islands on Wednesday of next This outing is looked forward to with great interest by all concerned. The party will leave Asbury Park at 6.30 in the morning, going by special train with Pullman dining car. Seventy-five outsiders can accompany the orchestra for \$38 each. This sum pays everything.

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The Auditorium Quartet, Grace Underwood, soprano; Ethel Morgan, contralto; Willis Marlowe Jones, tenor, and Donald Chalmers, basso, gave a delightful concert at the Pine Bluff Inn, Point Pleasant, last Saturday evening



YOUNG "ROUGH RIDER" MEMBERS OF CHILDREN'S CHORUS, IN OCEAN GROVE, MUSICAL DEPARTMENT,

great chorus trained by Mr. Morgan-this chorus of 700 voices, with its 125 bassos and over 100 tenors, sing with spirit, with intelligence, and with a body of tone that is marvel. The attacks are clear cut and decided, no sign of a waver anywhere; the pianissimo, like the faint whis-per of a breeze, and a quality of tone that will astonish the listener. Yes, by all means, attend the "Elijah" performance and you will be well repaid.

One of the features of the season is the annual picnic of the children's chorus, the festival chorus and the orchestra. This takes place on Wednesday of this week at Lake

The quartet was assisted by the house orchestra, Charles Frink, 'cellist, from the Ocean Grove Orchestra.

Mr. Morgan had his final rehearsal of "Elijah" with the New York Chorus last Monday evening. They will leave for Ocean Grove next Monday morning at 9 o'clock on the Jersey Central excursion train

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Julian Walker, Gwilym Miles, Clifford Wiley and Beatrice Fine will be among the artists who will sing this week at the Auditorium concerts.

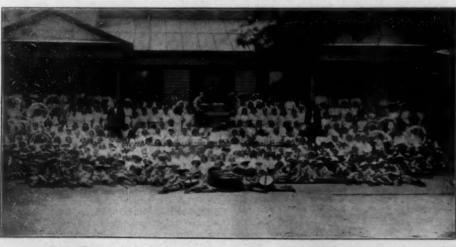
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Mr. Morgan will this winter organize the Brooklyn Festival Chorus, on the same lines as the New York Festival Chorus is formed. These two bodies will learn the same works and give joint concerts in New York and Brooklyn. Besides the oratorios, Mr. Morgan will select thirty of the best anthems, and teach these with a view of advancing church music.

The Present Ocean Grove Orchestra will be maintained all winter in New York, and thirty additional players will be added.

#### Clubs Re-engaging Birdice Blye.

Since Birdice Blye announced that she would resume her concert work this season, and accept a limited numher of engagements, most of the clubs that had contracted with her for last year have renewed their engagements. These, with the new ones that have been made, almost fill her available time. This talented pianist is justly a favorite wherever she plays. Her big repertory makes it possible for her to vary her programs.



ENTIRE CHILDREN'S CHORUS AS IT APPEARED AT RECENT CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

#### ASBURY PARK.

Assury Park, N. J., August 25, 1906. Many fine and representative programs have been given by Pryor and his band at Asbury Park this summer. A review of the daily programs shows that the band has a very extensive repertory, covering every school and class of composition and revealing a catholicity of taste and a fine art in program making. Among the compositions played this season we find: Overture, "Leonora," Beethoven; overture, "Rosemunde," Schubert; "March Hongroise," Berlioz; "Henry VIII Suite," Saint-Saens; overture, umphale," Rubinstein; "Robespierre," Litolff; "Athalie," Mendelssohn; "Oberon," Weber; "Carnéval," Dvorák; "Les Preludes and Finale to Symphonic Poem," Liszt: grand scenes from "Samson and Delilah," Saint-Saëns; grand scene, "Benediction des Poignards," from "Les Huguenots," overture, "Mignon," polonaise in E minor,

The operatic selections have embraced "Le Prophéte," grand scene from "Mefistofele," grand scene and ensemble from "Andrea Chenier," selections from "La Bohème,"
"Manon Lescaut," "Romeo and Juliet," "Faust," "La Giaconda," "Carmen," and fantaisie from "Di Perlenfischer." The lighter compositions number music to suite "Sylvia," "Scenes Pittoresque," Massenet; "Slavic No. 2," Dvorák; "Chant Sans Paroles," Tschaikowsky, and various compositions of German, Bendix, Strauss, Waldteufel, Gillet, Sousa and others, including pieces of Mr. Prvor's own composition,

In the gradual growth and advancement of musical culture in Asbury Park can be seen the upward trend of musical knowledge and appreciation of the whole American The quality of the music and the programs furnished for the delectation of the people of a few years ago would be highly shocking to the musical sensitiveness the present day music lovers. It is very interesting to trace the progress of band musicians in Asbury Park. starting with popular subscription the need and demand of this class of music as a summer attraction has resulted in the city appropriating a certain sum for the ngagement of a permanent band for the summer season. Ten or twelve years ago little or no attention was given to the quality of music; quantity was the one requisite. the old Asbury avenue pavilion of this time six or eight men constituted the Brass Band that edified the su visitors from early morning until as late as the Asbury Park law would allow.

At the old Fifth avenue pavilion a small orchestra played daily in the afternoon and evening to an audience chiefly of children and their maids.

The best music of this same period was conceded to be that furnished by the "orchestra" of the Coleman House People would come from all the surrounding cottages and hotels to listen to and enjoy the harmonius blending of tones dispersed by this "orchestra" of three men—violinist, cornetist and pianist. However, today, although the quiet and peace of the evening and the dining hours are still made most distressingly wearisome by so called "concerts," at many even of the better class hotels, the general musical idea of what should be, not what is, is much improved. The great and agonizing question is the honorarium Maître d'hotel is still undecided as to whether he should pay so much per, or pass the plate.

One of the incidents that tended greatly to the awaken ing of musical interest in the Asbury Park mind was the memorable visit of the great Mexican National Band to the Park in 1883. This was truly an artistic organization On the day of their arrival they were escorted from the station to the Casino by a band composed of all the musi cians employed in the various public pavilions, and the music that this impromptu band produced can be better imagined than described, and was undoubtedly as great a revelation to the Mexicans as was the Mexicans' music to the Asbury Parkites.

The coming of this band marked the beginning of a better understanding and appreciation of music, and the intervening years have seen a steady improvement along this was during this period of transition that Tali Esen Morgan took up his work in Ocean Grove and became the center of a coterie of musicians in Asbury Park that has grown from season to season until today the Park is the musical center of America.

The first large band regularly engaged was Torracelli's Italian Band of thirty men, who played several seasons, beginning 1889, and were paid by funds raised by popular subscription. The summer of 1894 marked an epoch. this year the city council appropriated a sufficient sum to employ a permanent band for the season.

The first organization to enjoy this new Vincentz's Band of fifteen men, of Orange, N. J. In 1895 came Louis Sneider, of New York City, with twenty men, who played two seasons. In 1897 W. M. Bartow, of Brooklyn, was engaged with fifteen men. He also played two

Following these bands came Voss, of Newark; Brinton's Ninth Regiment Band, of Philadelphia, and then came Con-



PETSCHNIKOFF'S MUSIC ROOM IN HIS BERLIN HOME.

has been augmented from season to season. This increase has not kept pace with the growth of culture or the demands of the people. It represents only a very reluctant acquiescence of the powers that be with the clamor of the people for something better and higher in music.

A necessity was felt for an organization capable of interpreting the best in music and a conductor who could direct intelligently and with authority. The public here would be satisfied with nothing less, and notwithstanding the inclination to economy, it was decided to meet this demand fully, and Pryor and his band were engaged for the season of 1904. That this choice was well made events have since proven, this year being the third consecutive season that Pryor and his band have played at Asbury

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C. A. Marks, director of the Euterpean Club, of Allentown, Pa., is the guest of Walter R. Anderson at "The Sheldon," Ocean Grove.

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The Harmonie Quartet, of Philadelphia—consisting of Rosalie Connelly, soprano; Mrs. Cary, contralto; Howard Berry, tenor; William Doudell, basao under direction J. H. Kowalski, gave a very enjoyable musicale at the Hotel Marlborough, August 22.

The pupils of Mme. Ogden Crane, presented "The Flower Queen," a delightful operetta, on August 18 at the Marlborough. The cast included Mame Aumack, Raymond Gould Crane, Nora Beegle, Lillian Vetter, Loretta Donihee, Helen Dickson and Nanette Wiloughby.

Mrs. William Keye Miller, of Washington, D. C., has been giving a series of song recitals at the various hotels this season. Mrs. Miller is the solo soprano at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, and a member of the exclusive Musical Art Society.

EVELVN KARSMANN

#### LEOPOLD GODOWSKY APPRECIATIONS.

Here are some more press opinions from the Fatherland the playing of that matchless artist, Leopold Godowsky There is only one voice of admiration for Leopold Godowsky's rare qualities as a pianist—the tenderness of his touch, the crystal clearness of his execution and the refined inward delicacy of his taste.—Berliner Neueste Nachrichten, January 19. 1905.

As a Liszt player, Godowsky is simply magnificent. His certainty, his clearness and his go were astounding; and with all this he displayed such refinement and daintiness that the audience broke into storms of applause .- Staatsbürger Zeitung, Berlin, January 20, 1905.

Herr Godowsky played not only with extreme brilliancy, it also with musicianly intelligence and taste.--Allgemeine Musik-Zeitung, Charlottenburg

His specialty is Chopin, whom he plays in a manner

terno with twenty men, who played two successive seasons. quite masterly and with a poetic charm, the effect of which will be noticed that the number of men in the bands can only be called magical. It is therefore only natural that a display of enthusiasm was evoked such as is rarely seen in a Berlin concert hall.-Berliner Börsen-Courier, Feb.

It is well known that Godowsky is unsurpassed in his rendering of the works of Chopin. And, indeed, his playing of op. 28, Chopin's preludes, in the twenty-four different keys, was a masterpiece. How he gave to each prelude a character of its own, and formed it into a mind picture, that was indeed a performance worthy of the highest admiration.-Reichsanzieger, Berlin, February 10, 1905.

No one is more fitted than Leopold Godowsky to be taken as representing the pianist's art in its highest perfection. He gave the funeral march from Chopin's B minor sonata with inimitable elusiveness. But the crowning part of his performance was his playing of the twenty-four preludes. What shades of feeling, what technical finesse Godowsky gave us here! It was simply astounding.—Dr. Leopold Schmidt, in Berliner Tageblatt, February 10, 1905.

The artist was in excellent form and played magnificently, I heard only the B minor sonata and the preludes, but these were a triumph of beauty of tone. One simply forgot it was the piano that was being played, the manipulation of complicated mechanism was quite lost sight of. Godowsky's execution is marvellously even and rounded, but that seems quite a minor detail compared with the poetical conception of a tone poem such as the largo of the B minor sonata, which seemed to be caressed out of the full toned Bechstein. And his playing of the preludes, too! Each one of these tender characteristic pieces conjured up a vision of beauty and charm. It was pure enjoyment to listen to him, and the crowded audience applauded him very heartily.—Berliner Börsen-Zeitung, February 10, 1905.

As is always the case, Leopold Godowsky charmed his audience by his refined, earnest and sincere manner of playing, more especially in Chopin's sonata in B minor, which became a masterpiece of musical delicacy and dainti-ness.—Der Tag, Berlin, February 11, 1905.

Godowsky played the F minor fantasie, the two sonatas in B minor and B flat minor, and the twenty-four preludes of Chopin with that charm and tenderness which that composer requires, without at the same time failing to do justice to the passionate finale of the B minor sonata or to the first allegro of the B flat minor sonata or its weird, rushing finale. But his own characteristic charming style was most noticeable in the B major episode of the fautasie, the adagio of the B minor sonata and some of the preludes, which were things of perfect beauty.-E. E. Taubert, in Die Post, Berlin, February 12, 1905.

Anna E. Ziegler, whose article, "A Plea for the Science of Singing." in our issue of August 15 brought upon the fair author much attention, has been obliged to break in on her vacation sojourn in the Catskills for the sake of coaching some of the singers for the coming season's opera. She is beginning very early on this account.



The complete catalogue issued by the Leipsic music and educational book publishing firm of Carl Merseburger contains a brief historical preface. From this preface it is seen that the business began in September, 1849, with the purchase of the rights and plates formerly owned by Carl Friedrich Mensel. The school and pedagogical works pre-dominated so largely then as to include only a single nusical volume, the "Elementar Pianoforteschule," Friedrich Brauer, at that time a popular organist teacher at Naumburg. The first musical book published under Merseburger's new ownership was a miniature book songs for female voices, issued in 1850, under the title of "Eunomia." This book reached its fourth edition in A book of school songs, compiled under the title "Lieredhain," by Ernst Julius Hentschel, was issued by Merseburger in 1851, and it has gone through more editions in fifty-five years. A. Dietrich's ballads of the "Page and the King's Daughter," Julius Otto's five quartets for male voices, and his three easy piano rondos followed in 1851. From that date musical publications were brought with a frequency not now easy

Some time in the middle sixties Merseburger conceived the very practical idea of helping orchestral players acquiring their routine by selecting and publishing for daily practice difficult passages from the concert literature for This idea was employed for many years in separate collections for the various instruments. issued under the title of orchestral studies. The Merseburger publishing of such studies still continues from year to year, and now the collections for each instrument may be had in complete bound volumes. The different collections are compiled and edited by various well known authors and teachers.

In December, 1849, Merseburger bought the musical monthly Euterpe, which had been published since 1840 at Erfurt, under the editorship of Ernst Julius Hentschel Hentschel continued the music literary editorship for twenty years longer, and the journal was published until 1884. The firm still has many volumes of this periodical for sale, and they contain material of much value to students who would intimately observe the musical history of those times. The contents of the different volumes are most carefully catalogued.

Carl Wilhelm Merseburger (1816-1885), founder of the ouse, was himself most active in a music literary capacity under the nom de plume of Paul Frank. His "Tonkunstler reached the tenth edition in 1902, while his Taschenbüchlein des Musikers" has reached its twentieth The Merseburger house is now controlled by Max Otto Merseburger, son of Otto Merseburger, who was a younger brother of the founder and who had been engaged in the business from 1850 until his death in 1898.

The present direction of the Merseburger energy will be immediately apparent from the list of musical books already brought out in 1906. These include compositions by Wilhelm Barge, for flute; Richard Hofmann, instructive violin works; Karl Bamberg, two volumes of trios for trombone; Bernhard E. Müller, alto oboe or English horn; Siegfried Karg Elert, etudes for English horn; Karl Paasch, viola duos; Willy Herrmann, organ preludes; August Brandt, piano school for children; F. X. Sterkel's viola duets, revised by Herrmann Ritter; Max Schwedler, flute solos, arranged from old masters; Johannes Snoer, studies and for chromatic and double pedal harps; Otto Model and Max Möhring, choral introductions for organ; Franz Wagner, zither melodies; Bernhard Romberg's 'cello studies, revised by Robert Heger; C. Kopprasch's for tuba or helicon, edited by Robert Müller, of Leipsic Conservatory; Karl and Otto Goepfart, male choruses; and numberless other instruments. The unusually com-

Theodore Winkier, a fantasia appassionata for flute solo; Carl Boyde, Christmas songs for piano or organ and soprano; the vocal septet from Friedrich Kühmstedt's ora-"Die Verklärung des Herrn," edited by Otto Goepfart.

Among the most valuable little books recently issued by Merseburger is that entitled "Posthorn Schule und Post-This work is a school for the horn Tascherliederbuch." cornet-a-piston or post horn, written by Friedrich Gumbert, of Leipsic Conservatory. It is introduced by a twenty page historical study of the instrument, written by Post Director Karl Thieme, of Dresden. In the preparation of this history Thieme has availed himself of public docu-ments from the post offices in Berlin, Vienna, Stuttgart, Munich and Berne, Switzerland.

The music publishing house of Julius Heinrich Zimmermann was established in St. Petersburg in 1876 and brought to Leipsic in 1886. The Zimmermann catalogue acquired in thirty years does not compare in size with those of many of the other Leipsic publishers, but upon examination it is found to contain much that is modern and vital. The chief energy of the firm may be said to center upon the publication of teaching and instructive works, and through these a number of the less popular orchestral instruments are well provided for. The clarinet, trombone, flute, oboe and harp are well represented, as will be noted later.

Among the vital orchestral works of the Zimmern catalogue are the C minor symphony, two overtures and the symphonic poem, "En Bohème," by Willi Balakirew; the B mmor symphony by S. Liapounow; the second symphony (B flat minor), the F major suite, and other orchestral Tanéiew; a Russian rhapsody, by Adolf Terschak; Carl Reinecke's serenade for string orchestra, and a number of operetta scores, most potent of which are just now the "Jadwiga" and "Die Chansonette," by R. Dellinger.

The Zimmermann concerto literature has its own peculiar complexion through the variety of instruments sup-There are the C minor harp concerto (1905) by plied. Albert Zabel; the F minor flute concerto by Ferdinand Büchner, and the D minor flute concerto by the Dutchman, H. H. Verhey. Verhey is also represented here with his G minor concerto for clarinet and his A minor concerto (1906) for violin. The Joachim Andersen military allegro, 48, for two flutes and orchestra; a concertino, op. 12, by Alfred Wernicke, and a concert rondo by the once famous W. Kalliwoda are among other live and useful compositions for flute and orchestra. The Reinecke B minor piano concerto remains popular and much used in Germany. C minor violin concerto, op. 14. by the Scandinavian c oser, Tor Aulin, is published by Zimmermann, as are also legende by Concertmaster Max Lewinger, of Dresden; a scherzo fantastique by the Spanish violin virtuoso, Joan Manen; an introduction and tarantelle and five other opus numbers by Pablo de Sarasate. The C minor concerto by Aulin is his third for the violin. His fourth, still in manuscript, was played in London. July 12, by the young virtuoso and composer, Emanuel Floris.

Publications for piano solo include the Rach fugues and inventions in the well known editing in colors by Bernliard Boeckelmann, of New York; the B flat minor sonata and many shorter piano works by Willi Balakirew; ten opus numbers by Liapourow; a theme varie, constituting the opus 4 by Ossip Gabrilowitsch; a number of collections of children's compositions by Carl Reinecke. The teaching works include a comparatively voluminous literature for the flute, the harp, clarinet, oboe, musette, slide trombone

plete three volume violin method by Richard Hofmann is among the well known works.

It is said that the Zimmermann house came in largely on the sunny side of the late war between Japan and Rus-Some are unkind enough to say that the musicians of the Russian army came toward home in so great haste as to leave nearly all of their music behind. This had to be replaced, and as the Zimmermann connection with Russia was already well established through ten years' residence in St. Petersburg the occasion was immensely profitacle to the Leipsic firm.

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The Leipsic publisher and literary and art antiquarian, Karl W. Hiersemann, who is offering for sale the original Beethoven manuscript of the "Waldstein" sonata, has just issued a pamphlet offering a very rare musical dating from the ninth or tenth century. This is a "Brevia-rium Benedictinum Completum," supposedly from a South German Benedictine monastery of about the period mentioned. The volume comprises 241 leaves of parchment, with the church service and hymns everywhere arranged in the order of their use throughout the year. It is copied almost entirely in the handwriting of one person, and wherever additions or renewals occur they are also on parchment and in ink, showing the great age. The hymn tunes are copied in the numerals, which were the means of notation largely employed from about the sixth to eleventh centuries. The volume contains a great number of beautifully ornamental letterings, though it is to be seen from the general character of the copying that the book was not so much intended as an art work as a practical service book of the time.

The pamphlet issued by Mr. Hiersemann has been especially written by Professor Dr. Hugo Riemann, who holds the recently created chair of music in Leipsic Uni-Professor Riemann has written for years on old musical notations, and his article on the present breviarium is to be considered authoritative. As yet the pamphlet is issued only in the German. The price asked for the breviarium is 23,500 marks. ~

During the past week a traveler on the way to Bayreuth offered the Hiersemann house an original manuscript by Frederic Chopin. The work was a very short fugue for two pianos. A musician is generally ready to sell any-thing after purchasing a few of the Bayreuth tickets at market price

The first heavy work put on by the Leipsic opera after the summer vacation was "Lohengrin," on August 12. Richard Hagel was conductor. The occasion introduced as guest the basso, Herr Aschner, of Brunn, Austria. He sang the role of the King. The other roles were presented by regular members of the local opera, though Jenny Osborn Hannah's singing of Elsa was the first performance under her two years' contract. The tenor, Urlus, was in the title role, and the superb contralto, Fräulein Sengern, had the almost impossible task of presenting the high lying usic of the role of Ortrud. The ever consistent Hans Schütz sang the Telramund.

The guest, Herr Aschner, proved possession of a voice of much power and brilliance in the higher tones, but lighter and generally insufficient in the lower voice that a basso needs. The chorus, just coming from its vacation and idleness, was indescribably off, since the voices were embodiment of flabbiness. Mrs. Hannah's presentation of the role of Elsa served to increase the respect which is due on her beautiful voice, her intelligence, and her stable musicianship. There were moments in the third act when she gave undeniable indication of the dramatic intensity that she is destined to show upon further routine.

Karleton Hackett, who had been spending some days with his family party in Munich, made the return to Leipsic especially to hear Mrs. Hannah and to make a report for the Chicago Evening Post. Mrs. Lefevre and daughter of Denver, came down from Berlin to hear the opera given. EUGENE E. SIMPSON

#### The Savage Production of "Nadam Butterfly."

Winfred Goff, Francis Maclennan and Joseph F. Shee three well known singers in Henry W. Savage's English Grand Opera forces, returned last week from London, where they went to hear "Madam Butterfly." the close of the Covent Garden opera season the party took a month's vacation in the Swiss Alpa. All of them are to have roles in Puccini's Japanese lyric tragedy that Mr. Savage will produce in Washington, October 15. Puccini's opera, "Madam Butterfly," is taken from Lu-

ther Long's tragic Japanese story which David Belasco made into a one act drama several years ago and which had a run of nearly 1,000 performances in New York. It was the first and most popular of all the Japanese plays, and music lovers who have heard the Puccini masterpiece abroad predict that the opera will be a sensational success in this country. Henry W. Savage has employed a special orps of Japanese artists and workmen to design and build

## CHICAGO.

#### A Mandel Hall Recital.

August 25, 1906 Read, one's sense of curiosity prompts one to wonder whether the subject of a vocal work, or the manner of its presentation, can have anything to do with the inspiration of a composer who supplies the musical setting. It would seem, for example, that there is nothing productive of artistic exaltation in the spectacle of a washer-woman cleansing her garments at the side of a river. Yet this unromantic occurrence moved Adolf Jensen to the composition of his song, "By Manzanares"—Manzanares being the name of the stream which assisted the laundry to obtain its normal spotlessness. It might be imagined that, having so unpromising a subject as this to inspire it, Jensen's music could by no possibility be worth listening to. Quite the contrary. The music is full of distinction and could not have been more fervid if the washlady had been Aphrodite and the river the glowing waters of Cythera.

That some of the other composers represented on the program were equally indifferent to the quality of their texts could easily be proved. "A Tragic Tale," by Slater, which was sung by Mr. Read, is concerned with an individual who is the unhappy possessor of a pigtail, which appendage dismays its owner by persistently remaining attached to the back of his head, though why it should be anywhere else it were difficult to explain. The writer is not in a position to know whether the originator of these verses was suffering from incipient softening of the brain, or whether he was moved by a cynical desire to test the forbearance of a long suffering public, but it is quite certain that his coadjutor, Mr. Slater, was sufficiently "inspired" by these lyrical efforts to give them a musical It is, however, less easy to understand, considsetting. ering the number of good songs in existence, why Mr. Read should have sung this one, or even another entitled "Oh, the Pretty, Pretty Creature," which was hardly less vacuous. Mrs. Read's contributions to the evening's music consisted of six vocal works, which she interpreted with skill and effectiveness. The most ambitious of these—an aria from Mausenet's "Herodiade"—the singer gave with beauty of voice and with artistic insight, if not with

dramatic power. The other numbers consisted of Wolf's "Er ists," Wagner's beautiful "Wiegenlied," a common-Wagner's beautiful "Wiegenlied," a c In listening to some of the songs which were sung last place spring song by Von Wickede, Jensen's "By Man-Tuesday in Mandel Hall, by Lilian French Read and John zanares," and Hartog's setting of a lyric from Browning's 'Pippa Passes." John Thekla Read is possessed of a bass voice of admirable quality which has been well trained and which is capable of giving real artistic pleasure when it is applied to music worthy of artistic interpretation. And such music, it should be said, found representation among the seven songs which were included in Mr. Read's selections on Tuesday.

Two songs of Schubert were excellently sung, as also was Jensen's "Alt Heidelberg," and the singer gave a good account of the "Evening Star" air from Wagner's "Tann-Other numbers were Frederick Cowen's "Border Ballad," Lassen's sympathetic song, "Greeting," and the aforementioned "Tragic Tale," by Slater. In addition to the solo songs. Mr. and Mrs. Read were heard in two vocal duets-Hildach's "Passage Birds' Farewell," and a graceful "Gondoleria," by George Henschel.

#### FELIX BOROWSKI. (B) (B) Chicago Musical College Catalogue.

The new catalogue of the Chicago Musical College has just made its appearance, and, as is usual with the productions of this great institution, is eminently artistic and progressive. The work, which contains more than 100 pages, includes an interesting historical sketch of college, by George P. Upton, short biographical sketches of the little army of musicians who comprise the faculty, the courses of study in instrumental, vocal and theoretical departments, as well as in the school of opera, a department which has done work of the greatest importance and which has brought no little glory to the institution. addition to much information concerning public school music, the school of expression and the school of acting, the catalogue contains a list of the concerts and lectures given last year by the college, as well as a large number of pictures of the members of the faculty and views of the college building, studios, etc.

#### **RE RE**

#### Dustan Collins Musical Agency.

in the Auditorium Recital Hall during the coming season Of these concerts, six will be devoted to chamber music, the Chicago String Quartet giving three and the Steindel Trio giving three, these being the only public performances which will be given by these organizations during the season. Piano recitals will be given by Jeannette Durno-Collins, Howard Wells, Brahm van den Berg and Dr. N. I. Elsenheimer. The following artists will be heard in song recitals: Minnie Fish-Griffin, Mrs. Willard S. Bracken, William Beard and Marion Green. Eugagements of other rominent artists are pending.

#### CHICAGO NEWS NOTES.

The last concert of the Chicago University's sun series will take place next Tuesday in Mandel Hall. The program, which will be given by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kelly, will consist of Irish songs

L. A. Torrens, of the Cosmopolitan School of Music and Dramatic Art, has returned to Chicago from the coast of Maine, where his vacation has been spent. 10 10

Carl Ziegfeld, secretary and treasurer of the Chicago Musical College, is hunting and fishing in Minocqua, Wis.

Among the chamber music works which will be heard season are trios by Beethoven, Godard, Brahi Dvorák, Schubert and Rubinstein, which will be played by the Steindel Trio. The Chicago String Quartet (Messrs. Kramer, Becker, Esser and Steindel) will bring forward string quartets by Dvorák, Smetana and Grieg, piano quartets by Schumann and Brahms, and the piano quintet by Dvorák

John B. Miller, the tenor, is spending his vacation in

The Thomas Orchestra, Frederick Stock, conductor, w play a "ballroom" program tonight at Ravinia Park. The program will include Beethoven's "Ruins of Athens" march, two dances by Gluck, a suite by Rameau, the ballet music from Massenet's " Le Cid," the academic overture of Brahms, three movements from Moszkowski's "In Foreign Lands" suite, and a waltz of Strauss.

The engagement of the Thomas Orchestra at Ravinia The Dunstan Collins Musical Agency, of Chicago, announces an attractive list of concerts which will be given Dillard Gunn will play with orchestra Chopin's E minor

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concerto, and on Thursday evening Walter Spry will be PROPER PREPARATION heard in the concertstück of Weber

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The Apollo Musical Club, Harrison Wild, director, announces that applications for membership are no considered by the music committee. Owing to the great difficulty of the works to be produced during the season, rehearsals begin September 10, which is an earlier date than usual.

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Milward Adams, director of the Auditorium Theater, has returned to Chicago from an extensive tour in Japan.

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John J. Hattstaedt, president of the American Conservatory, has been spending the vacation in Colorado.

#### Brooklyn Arion Garden Party.

The Brooklyn Arion gave a garden party with a musical program Thursday evening of last week. At the same time the entertainment committee completed plans for the excursion which many of the members of the club and their families will make to the Catskills the end of this week. In the mountains the Brooklyn party will be lodged at the Hotel Kaaterskill.

#### Restful Place for Musicians.

Musicians who would like to spend a week or two in a quiet, restful place on the St. Lawrence River will find a delightful spot on Little Calumet Island, situated only short way from Alexandria Bay. Accommodations can be had for about six or eight persons, with all conveniences and good food. Altogether, it is a delightful place, especially to spend the month of September, or even a couple of weeks. The terms are very reasonable. Address Mrs. Kay, Little Calumet Island, St. Lawrence Park, N. Y.

#### Schenck at Bar Harbor.

Elliott Schenck was entertained by Walter Damrosch at Bar Harbor recently. Mr. Schenck has not yet made known his plans for the coming season.

#### Glenn Hall Abroad.

Glenn Hall, of Chicago, the tenor, is among the recent arrivals in Europe. He is traveling on the Continent.

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#### OF MUSIC TEACHERS.

Boston, Mass., August 20, 1906.

Leading personalities in the work of summer normal music schools have been mentioned, with characteristics and ideas. The following are others, deeply interested in that work, and interesting by reason of sincerity, earnestness and capacity.

Marie Ross, pupil of Shakespeare, of London, has just passed through the fifth year of music teaching in the public schools of Manila, in the Philippines. She comes to the States to profit by these normal courses, and graduated this year from the Normal Institute. Ten teach music were sent to the Philippines by the United States Government with the first instalment of school teachers. From being both supervisor and normal teacher, Miss Ross has recently, through growth in the movement, been head of the normal department alone

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The Filipinos are quick, have retentive memories, enthusiasm, marked sense of rhythm, desire to learn and respond joyously to instruction. Whether endowed with the joyously to instruction. Whether endowed with the "inventive" faculty in music is later to be seen. Music has had a marked influence upon their characters and is one of the strongest aids to their culture. Language and high ideals are both rapidly assimilated through music. These natives had no English at commencement, had more knowledge of instrumental than of vocal music, and were deficient, as are we, in music science. The first teaching v done, necessarily, without books, taxing to the utmost the teaching capacity. They are now helped by valuable and attractive literature. "To Thee, O Country" (Eichberg), "Down in Dewy Dell" (Smart) and "Farewell to the Forest" (Mendelssohn), were among numbers sung at recent exercises. The new "International Songs" are of great benefit. Patriotism seems to find a ready response their natures.

Mrs. G. G. Dunster, supervisor of music; Miss Yee, a progressive teacher of it, and Mrs. Captain Sleeper, president of the "Monday Music Club," at Manila, are other interesting musicians in this new territory. THE MUSICAL COURTER is now also in the field.

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Mrs. L. Andrews, of Georgia, a clever and successful educator, has charming personality, is well up in current events, also in musicianship, and is a firm believer in normal preparation for music teachers. Her sister is a successful teacher in Gorham, Me. Mrs. Andrews lives in New York and teaches in New Jersey, a course opposite to that of Miss Judge, the able music teacher of Wadleigh High School, New York, who has her home in New Jersey.

Mrs. Andrews was one of the shining lights in training om departments.

Imogene Farnum, of Everett, Mass., is a young and sing teacher who goes as supervisor of n schools of Tampa, Fla.

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Miss A. B. Austin came from a school of ethical culture in New York to acquire correct methods of teaching, as to put them into practice in her music department of that school. Lovely in person and in disposition, she was remarked in the harmony and training drill classes

Mr. Spangler, of McKeesport, Pa., an esteemed supervisor, announces great advance in his music work under normal methods. Mr. Lovell, a musical enthusiast and violinist, is supervisor in Massachusetts, a graduate of 1900, and returns each year to learn more about the science of imparting music and of music itself. He is perfectly happy and was heard as artist in various entertain

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Mr. Davis, a graduate, supervisor in Allegheny, Pa., a concert singer, tenor, choral director and normal enthu-siast, returns yearly "to visit." He reports the past year the best in his teaching experience. He speaks admiringly of Daniel Beddoe, the Pittsburg tenor, and who is now soloist in St. Bartholomew's, New York; he is greatly regretted in Pennsylvania. Seven Allegheny teachers came to Boston this summer to visit the institute, and were "personally conducted" by Mr. Davis. He also gave much pleasure by his singing at the musicales.

Mary Wallace, of Peterboro, N. H., the youngest member-pretty, engaging, original and most progressive-graduated this year and was remarked in many classes for good qualities and good nature. Mrs. P. Collins, in Marlboro, 17 miles distant in the same State, is a strong, happy, leading nature, well equipped and loved by her pupils

Eva Jane Thom, having one of the sweetest and most sympathetic of soprano voices, and also one of the youngst music teachers present, sang the soprano solo in the "Norman Baron" cantata, and at musicales, and carried off a normal diploma. Miss Putman, of Fitchburg, sang in enocert, and took "harmony" so to heart that she dreamed of "trios," "sevenths," "dominants," etc., coming to be presented to her, as people, at public reception.

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Jeanne Craig, of Macon, Ga., attracted much attention in concerts, etc., by her clever singing of Clare Kummer's songs, to which voice and style were admirably adapted. Mention was made of that young composer-of her work, personality and prosperity in her peculiar line. Miss Craig is a pupil of J. C. Bartlett, in Boston, and of Isidor Luckstone, New York, and is a capable teacher.

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Dorchester, were two piano teachers, who, realizing the importance of normal training of music teachers, and the deficiencies of those not so equipped, attend the normal courses and carry out the principles in their private teaching. Both have large classes. The former is pupil of the New England Conservatory of Music and of Homer Norris, the latter of Arthur Foote.

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Miss Clark, from Stafford Springs, Conn., a contralto of value, was admired in concert. Alice M. Brown, as-sistant music teacher at Chelsea, Mass., with Mrs. Mc-Conoghy (late of St. Louis) is a strong and valuable normalite, and is attracting attention as an educator in public school music. Miss Davis, of Lynn, Mass., is also a fine contralto and was admired at entertainments.

L. R. Maxwell, president of the graduating class of this n, has supervision of four prominent school sections in Massachusetts. He is exceptionally talented, comes from Tufts College, has a superb bass voice, much science. is a good choral conductor and teacher of harmony.

Marie James, a progressive music teacher from the schools of Washington, D. C., took home to the capital many valuable suggestions for the coming year.

E. N. C. Barnes, a Virgil Clavier teacher, and attractive bass-baritone, of Woburn and Somerville, Mass., is fast passing into the strongly educational lines in music teaching, for which the Virgil methods are good preparation. is conductor of choral work, supervisor in Burlington, Mass., and teacher of music

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Georgia E. Miller, of Washington, D. C., and Susan B. Dungan, of Baltimore, both heads of Virgil Clavier piano schools, and both having advanced educational tendencies, rould add to the ease and efficiency of their work, and at the same time to the values of this new normal world by becoming members of it. So indeed would many private teachers, vocal and instrumental.

Miss Rieger, Florence Smith, Mrs. Andrews, Miss Marks and semi-choruses, male and female, composed of members of the teaching corps, were performers on programs. An-nie Louise Goodrich, Gertrude Aldrich, Harriett Filmer, Elinor Johnson, Walter G. Mears, Harriett Perkins, Caro-

Harriett Dexter, of Cambridge, and Lucille Peletier, of these conducted choral singing at commencement exer-

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A feature of school entertainment music seems to be the setting of sane, clean, poetic thought to operatic airs. Thus is utilized much beautiful composition while delivering the ang from the pestilential thoughts of murder, vengean lust, hatred, envy, and all uncharitableness which usually constitute the literature of dramatic performance. A boat song and prayer, for instance, and the departure of soldiers, with accompanying chants, applied to the "Trova-tore" "Miserere," are examples of this. These were con-ducted by L. B. Marshall.

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touching memorial was held, commemorating the death of Colonel Johnson, whose large international senti-ment was embodied in the beautiful international song book, comprising patriotic and folksongs of all countries, even of the different South American States, Mexico, New Zealand, Austria, Russia, France, Germany, British Isles all. Songs expressing patriotism and home lore of these several countries were sung, and eloquent addresses made by Messrs, Marshall and Congdon, friends of the compiler-

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Charles Anthony, of Boston, Mass., was heartily applauded in three piano numbers, as entr'acte in the closing exercises of the Normal Institute. Misses Beale, Kellogg Clarke played violin obligato to a "Bright Star of Eve," by Wrightson-Marshall. H. A. Shedd was organist, Fannie Hair accompanying pianist. @ @

#### Other Music Notes.

Frank R. Rix, erstwhile supervisor of music in the boroughs of Queens and Richmond, New York, has been elected superintendent of music for the New York City This news is hailed with sincere and very great schools. pleasure by all who have the interest of school m heart and who know the high standards of Mr. Rix and qualities as musician, educator, organizer, many and friend of teachers. In all the big educational conventions, associations, etc., Mr. Rix has been a genial, practical and forceful worker.

Rose Carrigan, head of the normal schools in the regular public schools of Boston, was an interested visitor line Smith, James F. Specht, Bertha Turner, Amy Knee-the summer normal music schools. Miss Carrigan is an land and Ethyl Taylor were other graduates. Several of advanced and enthusiastic music educator.

Mr. Manley, of Boston, writes much poetry for the new chool songs. Henry Gilbert writes m Both are popular.

J. C. Layton, director of the Coleridge-Taylor Choral Society in Washington, D. C., has been appointed director of the colored division of school music there, replacing Harriett Gibbs, resigned to marry Lawyer Marshall, of Boston. Mrs. Marshall will continue the directorship of the Washington Conservatory of Music.

Naomi Gring, of the Woman's College in Frederick, Md. (Mr. Beckwith, music director), is coming to Boston this season to teach music in the Perkins Institute. Miss Gring, who is an accomplished pianist and accompanist, will be greatly regretted in Frederick, where she has been accompanist for the Choral Society, and otherwise helpful to the music of the college and the town. She will resume her studies in the New England Conservatory, of which

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Carol Stanley, piano professor of the Frederick College, and also pupil of the New England Conservatory of Music, passed through Boston, en route to Canada to spend her racation. She continues her work in Frederick next year, and hopes to follow that by a visit to Europe.

FANNIE EDGAR THOMAS.

#### Washington to Have Many Concerts.

Warnington, D. C., August 25, 1906. Sydney Lloyd Wrightson, president and director of the Washington Conservatory of Music, has announced a series of fourteen concerts to be given at the National and Columbia theaters during the next season. The dates are: October 19 and 26; November 2, 9, 15 and 23; January 11, 15, 18 and 25, 1907; February 1, 7, 15, and March 1. The artists engaged include Nordica, Ysaye, Rosenthal, Peppercorn, Fabian, Clara Drew, Felix Garziglia, Edgar Priest, Haroold Eisenberg, and the Dramatic Club, of Washington. Mr. Wrightson himself will be among those who will sing

#### Giraudet's Discovery.

Alfred Giraudet, the eminent teacher of singing, intends to make an exposition before the Academy of Science in Paris on a physiological discovery. It is reported that this exposition will be of particular interest to musicians and

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CHAMPS ELYSEES, NEAR THE MUSICAL COURIER'S PARIS OFFICE.

14 RUE LINCOLN AVENUE DES CHAMPS-ELYSEES, PARIS, AUGUST 13, 1906.

[Artists contemplating American engagements can secure valuable practical advice by consulting Mr. Delma-Heide, Paris representative of THE MUSICAL COURTER.]

With stories affoat of extraordinary heat in the United States, the comparatively mild scorching that Paris receives from the August sun has no terrors for the Ameri-Several hundred additional Americans arrive can tourist. in Paris each day and register at the Herald office. New Yorkers seem to lead the van in point of numbers, but the New Chicagoans would make a small sized army. Says the New York Herald (Paris Edition): "From Memphis and Moline they come, Milwaukee, too, is here, to see the won-drous things abroad and all that's new and queer: From Seattle and Shreveport, St. Jo and Buffalo, likewise Toronto, Boston and Hamilton, O; Hotels in Paris, teeming with people from the States, all with different names and few that look like mates: Duluth, Detroit and Dallas send their local genial lights, while Fort Wayne and far 'Frisco are just as keen for sights; Waterville and Worcester are also in the van, as well as delegations from the State of Michigan." The Kentucky "belles," who recently created a sensation in Paris, have reached the Falls of the Rhine on their circuit of Europe. There the thirty-two girls from Dixie quite unexpectedly met a delegation, described as "peaches," from Ohio.

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The following facts may be of interest to American readas showing the proportion of visitors from the States to Paris this summer. From April 1 until July 31 there were 64,593 first class passengers, 54,133 second class, or in all, 118,726 Americans who are visiting Europe and pass through Paris. This figure surpasses by 8,688 units that of this time last year. Such an inroad of visitors is good for the material welfare of Paris, seeing the large number of keepers, restaurants and shops whom it benefits. also helps to keep alive Parisian vanity, with the reflection, that however great may be the republic beyond the sea, its greatness is not satisfied within itself, and that the results American culture, toil and enterprise are manifested chiefly when the sons and daughters of Columbia have the opportunity to escape from the New World and visit the French people are always pleased to receive visits, and when these visits mean an influx of dollars, they are doubly pleased.

**\*\*** \*\*\*

Referring to the arrival in Paris of the thirty-two Kentucky ladies who are our visitors, a French writer says: expected Venus, but it is Minerva and a severe Minerva who has come to us. So respectable a goddess is she that she has not even guessed that there is person as Venus, and while she heard the compliments made to her on her wisdom, her gift of languages was not sufficiently strong for her to appreciate the veiled sarcasm lurking behind those compliments. \* \* \*, For in Paris everything is forgiven to beauty, and without beauty no amount of other qualities is acceptable. Let me, however, correct a common mistake of my countrymen when they

speak of 'American beauty.' There is no such thing. New York, it is true, one sees beautiful women, but they are types of all nations, for in that city of foreigners every nation is at home, except perhaps England. What is the chief characteristic of the American woman is her attitude. She walks with her chin thrust forward, her elbows at her sides, her feet firmly planted—all is hard, swift, uncompromising, the attitude of the woman who works for her living and is determined to conquer in the strife with the rest of the world."

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Overheard outside one of our principal Parisian cafés while the Kentuckians passed, spectacles on nose, heads



FAMOUS FRENCH COMPOSERS SERIES. No. 6.

raised, with the uncompromising air mentioned by the writer just quoted: "Those ladies have obtained the prize for beauty." "Indeed! Well, if it depends on me they will also get the prize for virtue."

In Jules Lemaître's "Impressions de Théâtre" there is a very interesting passage, in which he recalls his first experience of the Conservatoire examinations. He says: "Since I am accustomed to note candidly my impressions and to find everything which I see remarkable and novel if I have not seen it before, I must admit that my first Conservatoire competition, at which, of course, I was merely a spectator, seemed to me to be one of the most

singular spectacles any one could witness. Especially so examination in tragedy. ing scenes with which history or fable make us acquainted, the most ferocious passions are depicted before us by children who are absolutely incapable of understanding the horrors they assume to interpret. A young girl in a tulle frock, a charming and amiable person, is ready to strangle her lover. A nice young fellow, in a quiet black coat, the down of early manhood scarcely yet on his cheeks, has a truly terrible record—he has killed his father and inadvertently married his mother, and he rolls his eyes and gesticulates in the effort to make us believe that, in spite of his innocent looks, he is a most atrocious villain. The result of all this incongruous medley of scenes is to make us feel very little impressed by the reality of tragedy or by the illusion of the theatre."

These impressions of Lemaitre were the impressions of nany who were present in the Opéra Comique during the past two weeks.

One thing quite apart from art, gives the Conservatoire examinations the prominence they occupy-namely, the period in which they take place. It is the dead seaso Paris. No theatres, no Chambre des Députés. One must have something to criticise, and therefore the Conservatoire examinations come in handy in the silly season. There exists no less an authority for this statement than the president of the Conservatoire himself, Gabriel Fauré. It is an open secret that Mr. Fauré is a "reformist" in what concerns the Conservatoire. But reform is a terrible word, and especially to the "administration" of the National Academy of Music. So Gabriel Fauré has to proceed gently. Indeed, there is reason. There are nearly a hundred professors in the Paris Conservatoire, and these professors have all several pupils apiece. Some have a great many pupils. All this means that there are several hundred individuals to be reformed, and even Gabriel Fauré's tact has to take care of itself in face of such a stupendous task. No one is so sensitive as an artist. Just imagine, then, what a task it will be to reform several hundred masters and pupils, tragedians and comedians, singers and instrumental performers, not to speak of the future composers of the French and foreign schools of All success to the new president of the Conserva toire and all honor to him as a bold man for allowing the word "reform" to be mentioned in connection with his name

One of the professors of the Conservatoire to whom I spoke the other day on this subject said to me: "The first year of Mr. Fauré's rule is full of promise. So far he has done wonders. He has shaken up the old house a good For one thing, he has come often to visit the classes bit. and hear for himself how they are conducted-a thing which is very essential if he is to do his duty as director, but which nevertheless is neither agreeable to professors nor to students. He has been present at the periodical examinations; he even knows the pupils by sight and by name. All this is very desirable. But our reformer director does not stop there. During the holidays he intends to visit the most celebrated conservatoires of Germany and Austria. His impressions after this trip will be interesting.

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Will he be merely impressed by the superior style of architecture of the conservatoriums of Dresden, Berlin and Leipsic to that of the building in the Faubourg Poissonnière, or will he come back discouraged or encouraged by a comparison between the teaching given in that modest and even humble building and the preparation of our artists in the other great centers of Europe? It will be interesting to find the answer to these questions later on. **\*\* \*\*** 

Now that the children have been restored to their parents and the Opéra Comique to Albert Carré, the exam tions of the Conservatoire are over for this year, leaving the usual number of happy laureates and the usual nun of those who learn that the struggle for laurels, like the struggle for life, sometimes results in unexpected victories and in unexpected defeats.

To sum up the general impression left on the minds of those who were present in the Opéra Comique during the past fortnight: First of all, the principal debutant was the president of the Conservatoire, Gabriel Fauré, who presided over the examinations for the first time. His debut was an excellent one. Some of the modifications introduced by him were a decided advantage to every one concerned, such, for instance, as the reduction of the length of the pieces performed as well as of each individual trial, to the great saving of patience of the critics and of the time and endurance of the pupils. Another good idea was that of making the pupils present entire acts in the selections from opéra and opéra comique. However, if the president was excellent, the same cannot always be said for the official system, which leaves very much to be desired.

For instance, it is absurd to keep pupils at a course of study extending over four years, which might well be completed in two. When the pupils in the singing classes leave the Academy they are no longer very young-they are twenty-six years old at least-and then they are obliged to have two more years of stage practice in a State theater. It is only after all this preliminary work that the real experience begins. The laureates have lost six years in study which is often useless or superfluous, supposing the candidate to possess natural gifts, which are as often as not stifled or weakened by all this overtraining. Again, the methods pursued in teaching singing are calculated to ruin a good natural voice. The pupil is taught to shout and scream as loudly as possible; fineness of expression and modulation of tone are discouraged. This not only produces a disagreeable impression, but it deceives no one who understands music, for music does not mean noise. Some of the professors are credited with the record of breaking several voices a year. This is surely a deplorable defect in the professorial system.

In the theatrical competitions this time there was no extraordinary result. "temperament." Instead of lyric tragedians we had before us amiable and smiling young people entirely pleased with themselves and entirely devoid of dramatic fire or energy. The results in comedy were somewhat better than in tragedy; in the case of the male pupils, at any rate, for the three second prize winners-MM. Lluis, Palau and de Féraudy-were well above the average. Of the ladies the In comedy there is something to be said the better. hoped for from the Conservatoire; but for our future trage-dians we must look elsewhere unless some radical change can be introduced in the system of training, or unless some miracle sends a few born tragedians whom even the train-

ing cannot spoil, to the Faubourg Poissonnière. Such are opinions of the critics who attended daily and their careful attention to the trials in the Opéra





NATIONAL SONGS OF FRANCE SERIES. No. 6.

Comique. The director is new and the change has to be regarded as a gain to the Conservatoire; but it is asked if, after having got a new director, it is not also necessary to get some new professors and to make new rules for their guidance.

Passing from the vocal to the instrumental part of the competitions, the violin tests were of a high order, and No great artist in pose, no special especially interesting. The ladies distinguished themselves The instrumental examinations co especially. audience more expert and more critical than that which is accustomed to be present at the vocal tests, and they are followed with anxiety to do justice to the really great

superiority of the French instrumental teaching, and to the recruitment of the orchestras, not only of France, but of the entire world, which will do much with both professors and pupils to keep that teaching at a high level.

It appears to be an established fact that for the future the Conservatoire examinations will take place in the Opéra Comique. It is more commodious for the public, and the pupils and their friends are more at their ease. Naturally the conservative critics who remember the days of old cry out for a return to the stuffy little hall of the Faubourg Poissonière. After all, it has its associations, that stuffy little hall. How many great names were heard in public there for the first time. To give a few: Coquelin, Worms, Bartet, Croizette, deBargy, Bernhardt, Mounet-Sully, Réjane, Rose Caron, Delmas, Féraudy, Brandès and a host of others were seen and heard there for the first time by others than their professors. But progress is the watchword of the age and souvenirs count for little by the side of practical utility, and this is the reason that for all the sentiment of the Conservatoire itself, the convenience of the pupils, of the audience and of the jury will continue to be consulted at the annual examinations in having them in the airy and comfortable Salle

Isidore de Lara and Jules Bois have arrived at the Mont Revard. They are collaborating on a new opera-M. Bois writing the libretto-to be called "Nail," an Algerian subject, taking place chiefly at Biskra. The opera is to be produced in April next at the Paris Opéra Comique, and the principal role will be created by Emma Calvé or Cécile

At present Mile. Thévenet as Carmen is achieving enormous success at Cabourg, being praised for her "jolie voix" and her "real temperament." (C) (C)

I hear that the violin used by Mozart in his concerts has been found in Austria. It was believed to have been sold in England, but it has just turned up in the possession of a schoolmaster at Schoerfling. There is no doubt of the authenticity of the instrument, for there are letters extant showing that it was sold by Mozart's sister to an official who afterward sold it to the father of the schoolmaster who has it now. It is a Steiner violin made on Amati principles

Mr. Joanin, musical publisher, who has already published "Daria," by Georges Marty, and "La Croisade des Enfants," by Gabriel Pierné, has just acquired a new work of some importance, entitled "Dans la Tourmente," a musical drama in three acts, by Henri Comtesse.

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The publisher Ricordi, of Milan, has acquired the rights of transformation of Paul Adam's work, "Les Victimes, into a lyric drama. This work was recently read at the Comédie Française, where it was remarkably well received.

# HERS

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A young Milanese composer has been entrusted with the score, Mr. Montemezzi, who is reputed to possess the requi site gifts for the production of a charming work on the subject of this play. subject of this play.

The annual distribution of prizes to the laureates of the Conservatoire took place at Rue Bergère among the ordinary formalities. There was a crowded audience in spite of the tropical heat, and of course all the well known professors were present. At 1 o'clock exactly Dujardin-Beaumetz entered. He was surrounded by a group composed of Gabriel Fauré, Adrien Bernheim, Gailhard, D'Estournelles and a number of others well known in the Paris artistic world. The foreground was occupied by the laureates.

The minister pronounced a very interesting discourse, which is too long to be reproduced here, but in which he referred particularly to the reforms which are necessary to assimilate more nearly the public, the Government and the artists of note to the work and life of the Conservatoire. He spoke of the augmentation of classes, which I have already referred to, and said that the next Ministerial budget ould provide for the creation of two new classes of chamber music and of solfeggio, and he concluded by addressing the following words of advice to the laureates: "My young friends, never forget that in every noble work of art we find the trace of classical influence. Think especially of your education and of the formation of your habits of thought on the models of the great classics whom you to study. The artistic career is the most difficult of all, and to succeed in it you must surround yourselves as by an armor of triple brass." Mr. Dujardin-Beaumetz then enumerated the decorations conferred on the professors of the Conservatoire recently by the Government; and then began the usual defile of young laureates, some of whom are the celebrities of the future. Many of them, especially the youngest, were saluted by long rounds of applause as they made their way to the dais. The director of the Opéra awaited the arrival of his son, Andre Gailhard, to receive the award of second grand prix de Rome and first prize for fugue. His joy in his son's success was a touch of nature to which all hearts responded.

Next came the concert, which was over at 5 o'clock, and at last parents and children, pupils and professors separated, glad to escape from the stifling atmosphere of the hall and to have a little well carned rest after the fatigues of the examinations

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The following was the program of the concert, which, are as follows: Principal danseuses, Mlles. De Moreira, A.

according to custom, followed the distribution of prizes at

1, Etudes symphoniques (R. Schumann), Mlle Le Son; air from "Paulus" (Mendelssohn), M. Georges Petit; 3, fifth violin concerto, first movement (Vieuxtemps), Mr. Zighéra; 4, "Marguérite at the Spinning Wheel" (Schubert), Mile. Lamare; 5, villanelle for horn (Paul Dukas), M. Petiau; 6, third act of "Patire" (Victorien Sardou), Mile Barjac, MM. Chambreuil, Scott and Palau; 7, extracts from "Cosi fan Tutti" (Mozart), MM. Franchell, Vigneau Payan, Mlles. Lamare, Delimoges and J. Blo fifth act of "Chatterton" (Alfred de Vigny), Mr. Rollan, 9, scene from the third act of "Rigoletto" (Verdi), Mr. rbelly, Mlle. Gustin, MM. Heurisse, Sorrèze and Payan. ~

Following is the list of awards of legacies and endove ments which fell to the lot of the successful candidates of the Conservatoire this year

Nicodami bequest (500 francs), MM. Petaic and Delgrange, first prize for horn.

Guérineau prize (183 francs), Georges Petit and Mlle. Lamare, first prizes for singing.

Eugène Sourgey prize (150 francs), Mlle. Lamare Georges Hainl prize (613 francs), Mr. Benedetti, first prize for 'cello.

Popelin prize (1,200 francs), Mlles. Le Son, Vendeur and Leon

Henri Herts prize (300 francs), Mlle. Le Son.

Provost Ponsin prize (345 francs), Mlle. Corlys, laureate for declamation.

Buchère prize (700 francs), Mlles. Bailac and Corlys. Doumic prize (120 francs of bound music), Mlle Milliaud. Jules Garcia prize (200 francs), Mr. Zighéra, first prize

Monnot prize (578 francs), Mr. Zighéra, first prize violin. Muenier prize (Erard harp of the value of 3,500 francs), Mlle. Janet, first prize harp.

mer prize (triennial, 4,000 francs), Mr. Batalla. Girard prize (300 francs), Léa Lefebvre, second prize

Tholer prize (200 francs), no award.

Rose prize (200 francs), Mr. Loterie, first prize clarinet. Guilmant prize (500 francs), Mr. Bonnet, first prize organ.

The results of the examinations in dancing for the Opéra

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First quadrille, division 1, Mlles. Hugard, Martellucci, E. Kubler, Garnier, Boulay, L. Hugon, Coussot, De Sannoy; division 2, Mlies. Thierry, Bramat, Nedetti, J. Kats, Bayle, Tervoort, D. Roger, Poulain, De Verrey, Bertillon. Second quadrille, division 1, Mlles. Quinault, Pichard,

Berthon, Deord, Trelluyer, Delamare, Maurial, M. Roger; division 2, Mlles. E. Roger, Baker, Lefevre, Delsaut, Cornilla, Petrelle; second section, Mlles. Santori, H. Dauwe, Tersen, Dupré, P. Bos, Affre, Jupin.

MM. Berges and Ch. Friant enter the corps de ballet.

10 10

Spontini's "La Vestale" is in active preparation for the air production toward the end of the present month, at Bezières. This three act opera was written by Sponto a libretto furnished by Jouy, after being declined by Cherubini and Mehul. Today this work counts nearly a century in years. It was produced for the first time in 1807, achieving a great success in as many as three hun-dred performances and being heard everywhere; then it disappeared from the répertoire of opera houses. In 1854 "La Vestale" was again revived, but failed, owing to the deplorable distribution of roles. Since then only fragments of the opera have been produced.

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For some time there has been considerable talk of having a statue at Aix of Lamartine, who passed much time there in his youth and who immortalized Aix and its environs in "Raphael" and "Meditations Poétiques." Now it seems Aix is to have two statues to honor Lamartine. Two com-mittees have been formed, one there and one in Paris, and as they cannot agree on several small matters, and chiefly in the choice of a sculptor, each committee will start its own subscription and put up its own statue.

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During the ceremony of the distribution of prizes at the Conservatoire examinations last week, M. Gailhard informed M. Carbelly, first prize winner in the opera compeons, that he was to consider himself engaged for the Grand Opéra here.

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M. Gailhard has left Paris for Luchon, where a part of his holidays will be spent. He will, however, go to Leips to hear some new productions, one of which will be the "Salome," by Strauss.

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An interesting engagement is that of Pierre Carolus Duran, composer and leader of the orchestra in the Théatre des Arts at Rouen, to Alice Wulff, daughter of M. and Mme. Alfred E. Wulff. M. Duran is a son of the eminent



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OTE: EMMA Showers appeared as Soloist at Gerardy and Marteau Concerts during past season, meeting with such success that she has been re-engaged in several places for a recital next season.

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Albert Carré has decided to engage three of the Conservatoire laureates—M. Francell, Mile. Lamare and Mile. Martyl. The engagement of the latter depends on the decision of the doctors as to her state of bealth.

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On September 1 the Opera Comique will be reopened, and the box office, which closed on August 1, as well as the office for season tickets, will reopen on August 27.

Theodor Björksten, the New York singing teacher, and Mrs. Björksten, also a singer, have returned to Paris from Sweden, where they had a delightful reception, as told in the following account, from the Morgen Posten of Gothenburg. August 2:

"The King came ashore especially to be present at the romance matinee given by Mr. and Mrs. Theodor Björksten, at the club house. The matinee offered its public many moments of true musical delight. The richly diversified program was gone through in one hour, and I shall not attempt to say who of the two artists made the best impression. One comes nearest the truth by saying that they shared equally the applause that followed each number. When the applause had ceased after the final duct, the King came forward to the stage and pressed the singers' hands, expressing his appreciation of the concert. It is not often that one hears two such well schooled voices, an interpretation so truly artistic, and in Bungert's 'Der Sandträger' and Canio's 'Lament,' from 'Pagliacci,' Mr. Björksten rose to truly highly dramatic pathos."

The Goteborgs Handels och Sjöfarts-Tidning of Sweden said on August 2: "At the Björksten concert at Marstrand yesterday the audience were delighted with what the artist pair Björksten had to offer of beauty of voice and singing art. Both Mr. and Mrs. Björksten were enthusiastically applauded, and received beautiful bouquets of flowers and were specially thanked by the King for their splendid singing. One admired especially Mr. Björksten's charming, fine, musicianly and highly dramatic renderings. To those who remembered his first appearance as a singer, it was extremely interesting to observe how greatly he has developed both his voice and his art of interpretation."

Mr. and Mrs. Björksten are leaving for Dinard, where they will remain a week.

Delma-Heide.

#### DENVER.

"Cory Corner," South Washington and Evans Avenues, †
Denver, August 22, 1906. }

Musical matters have been very quiet during the summer in Denver. Activity in this line never altogether ceases, however, and from time to time musical events occur throughout the summer here that attract special attention; indeed, upon every public occasion, music seems to be indispensable and takes prominent place among the features of such event.

The object of chief interest has been the season of weekly symphony concerts given Friday afternoons in the theater of Elitch's Gardens, Denver's suburban resort, where not only dramatic work and artists of eminence are seen throughout the summer, but the regular Denver Symphony Orchestra, strengthened by Eastern musicians spending their vacations in Colorado.

It seems amusing, to say the least, that Mary Elitch-Long, the owner of the Gardens, can and does every st mer, at a purely nominal price of admission, present the Denver Symphony Orchestra in more varied and more perfect concerts, with the added feature of artists from "out of town"—which, of course, means added expense for their services—than the Denver Orchestral Association, which professes to promote the interests of "Art for Art's ought of profit, does at three times higher sake," without the prices, whereas Mrs. Long conducts the various attractions of the Gardens—supposedly, at least—for business pur-It can and must be said, with all candor, that the poses. summer series of symphony concerts in Denver are better and more popular, and their promoter also, than the winter season and the association conducting it. The latter, having a board of directors, list of guarantors and aubscribers, gives six concerts during the winter with an orchestra of about forty members and a soloist usually from among the comparatively few artists of the city, who are to be heard every Sunday in the city's churches, and who are asked to appear again and again for the munificent sum of ten dollars! And the music seldom comes from other than the old and worn library that has done duty for quite a num of years; of course, an occasional novelty-meaning by that, something new to this city-is obtained by the conductor, but verily the association has made a much more strenuous effort to protect itself from any expense above the receipts than has been made to strengthen and in the orchestra and its equipment.

On the other hand, every new artist of ability that can be obtained is engaged for the Elitch Gardens series, twice

as many concerts are given, and numerous new compositions are performed for the first time there, apparently "regardless of expense." While Denver's vocal and instrumental artists are of a uniformly high standing, and nearly always interesting, it is surely reasonable that we should expect our orchestral association, with guarantees and receipts aggregating \$5,000 or more, to at least equal, if not to exceed, the accomplishments of one w who must make it a matter of business. At present Mrs. Long does more and better work for Denver's mu entertainment and advancement alone than the Denver Orchestral Association, its directors and guarantors, do together. It is to be devoutly hoped that the coming season will see something worth while accomplished by the association compatible with its opportunities and resources, The conductor of both winter and summer symphonies is Raffaelo Cavallo, who is a most excellent one, and gives the very best concerts possible under the existing circumstances. He is a very highly accomplished musician, learned in the art and science of music, and exceedingly popular among the Denver concert goers. (W) (W)

Prof. Wilberforce J. Whiteman, who is one of the most energetic, prominent and successful choral conductors and vocal teachers of the West, is still restless while upon his vacation, and with Mrs. Whiteman and Ferne Whiteman, both contraltos of unusually interesting and attractive vocal and personal qualities, is absorbed in musical pursuits. A letter from Professor Whiteman gives interesting news of musical events abroad, the tour being through Germany, France and England, and also the welcome advice that they sail August 23 for home.

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Among the various private and other recitals, concerts, etc., of the summer, have been the following:

Madame Mayo-Rhodes' pupils, who comprise a large and rapidly growing class, were heard in recital during June, in the Central Christian Church, and, as usual, acquitted themselves with credit and received merited approval from the audience. Madame Mayo-Rhodes is an artist of high attainment and her singing in church and concert is always

very enjoyable. She is firmly established among the musicians and teachers of the city as such, and is quite popular publicly and in her teaching. Her method, the old Italian, is most thoroughly taught, and the rapid development of her pupils gives additional proof of her ability. Her studios are in the Hotel Albert, Welton and Sixteenth streets, Denver.

4 4º

In a concert given in the Knight-Campbell Music Hall, Dr. Gower, organist; Emil Zeitz, violinist; Charles West, 'cellist; H. B. Breining, tenor; Anthony Carlson, basso; the Desanctis brothers, violin and harp, and Madame Mayo-Rhodea, were heard in a fine program, with David Mc-Kinley Williams as accompanist (wherein he excels). All of the soloists gave pleasure to the large audience attending.

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At Manhattan Beach, another delightful suburban summer resort of Denver, a season of light and comic opera has been given, with principals and scenery from Daly's Theater, New York City. The "shows" have been exceptionally well patronized and also well staged, Adele Rafter, Jessie Bradbury, Sam Collins and others having been very popular. The music was good, and an orchestra of about twenty pieces was maintained.

Some good band music has been heard at the Denver City Park this summer, the thrifty tramway company realizing that "music hath charms," and with the aid of the park board have engaged a number of bands to give open air free concerts all summer long. The Banda Rossa was here for a month, and was very popular. The Royal Hawaiian Band, of Honolulu; Liberati's Band, Gargiulo's Roman Band, and several local organizations gave a series of concerts in the city. During the Elks' convention last month a massed band of several hundred players' who accompanied different delegations paraded together on the streets of Denver and made more music, in one sense at least, than Denver has ever heard.

Hattie Louise Sims, director of the Tuesday Musical Club, is spending the summer along the Massachusetts Coast. Frank T. McKnight.

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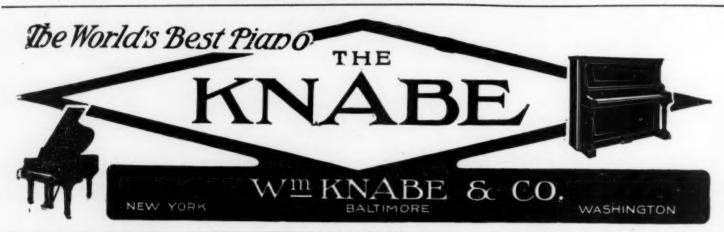
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